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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTHS.

On 17th June, at Kiukiang, to EDITH and WALTER J. CLENNELL (H. B. M.'s Consul), a daughter, BERYL JOY.
On 17th June, at Shanghai, the wife of J. E. DA COSTA, of a son.
On 22nd June, at Shanghai, the wife of J. DALTON, of a son.
On 23rd June, at Shanghai, the wife of H. KUMCKER, of a son.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD C1.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The French Mail of May 26th arrived, per the ss. *Tourane*, on the 26th inst.; and the English Mail of June 2nd arrived, per the ss. *Chusan*, on Wednesday, the 28th instant (27 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

According to Indian papers, the Japanese language is to be taught in one of the Lahore colleges.

Dr. Omori, the celebrated seismologist of Tokyo is now in India and will study the effects of the earthquake on the spot.

Dr. Blanc, a popular and very able medico at Shanghai, has severed his connection with China, and returned to France.

Three of the younger sons of the King of Siam have gone to Europe to be educated.—Siam is completing a wholesale army conscription scheme.

The Pacific Mail S.S. Co. is being sued by a Japanese junk owner for the value of a lighter and cargo run down by the ss. *Siberia*. The case is still (in Japan) *sub judice*.

The other day we noted that a new Temperance Society at Seoul had secured seventeen members. It is now suggested that the conversion of the remaining 196,629 persons is only a matter of time.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly & Potts were advised by telegraph on June 26th that the Chinese Engineering & Mining Company, Ltd., had declared an interim dividend of one shilling per share (Coupon No. 4).

A school "revi w" of 160 Chinese boys, drilled by Japanese at Hanchuan, Hupeh, took place last month. Evidently the Japanese know the right end at which to begin their task of creating a Chinese army.

Some fine godowns at Singapore are in immediate danger owing to a subsidence of the river bank near which they stand. The cracks and gaps in the ground are being hastily filled with hundreds of tons of granite. One of the threatened godowns is a new one, which is reported to have cost \$20,000 to build.

Commenting on Messrs. Erich Georg & Co's report of the "awful slump in Indo-China," the *N.C. Daily News* remarks:—"We wonder how many 'awful slumps' it will take to convince people of the danger of speculating in the shares of companies whose field of operations, or whose directorate, is situated thousands of miles away."

The Governor of Chabar, Mongolia, has reported to the Waiwupu that fifteen deserters from the Russian Army in Manchuria recently arrived at Chabar in a starving condition and begged for food. The Governor supplied them with food and now asks whether the men should be interned according to neutral law, or handed over to the nearest Russian Consul to be dealt with.

The remonstrances against the debasement of the currency have apparently had some effect already, notes the *N.C. Daily News*. There has been this spring a very large importation into Shanghai of brass ten-cash pieces manufactured at Hangchow, but news was received on June 23rd that, for some unexplained reason, the minting of these coins has been stopped.

A damask linen table-cloth, well advertised in England as the "British Empire" table-cloth, includes Hongkong in its ten designs. Hongkong is represented apparently by a left-handed view of the Rock of Gibraltar, Mr. May's yacht, and a wind-jammer, woven in linen threads. The *Times*, after "Independent Investigation," recommends this table-cloth as grateful and comforting.

A North Chinchou dispatch to the *N.C. Daily News* reports that a large body of mounted bandits, under a man called Chao-wu-pa-shih, attempted recently to pillage the territory of a Mongol tribe to the north-west of that city, under the pretence that his men were the vanguard of a Japanese force on its way to meet the Russian Army coming eastward into Manchuria through Mongolia. The bandits, however, revealed their true colours by pillaging every village they came to, with the result that the countryside was aroused and no less than 15,000 Mongols came out, at the call of their princes and nobles, to drive out the bandits. The latter speedily found themselves attacked on all sides, and in a pitched battle that followed, over three hundred bandits were slain, while the rest fled back to Manchuria.

"Suspicious" writes suggesting that the reported execution of General Stoessel may be another Russian dodge to "save face." He thinks the Russians might prefer such a stigma to rest upon one general rather than have the world believe that Russian soldiers could not hold such a strong fort; and that Stoessel may have been bribed to stay in retirement. We think his suspicion a little far-fetched.

The British Landrenters at Tientsin have unanimously authorised the Council to raise by loan the sum of Tls. 450,000 for the improvement of the Taku Bar. It is to be secured by a levy of wharfage dues at the rate of 1/4 per mill, and tonnage dues of 1 mace per ton per trip on shipping coming to the Peiho. This resolution was unanimously supported at a very full meeting of the Tientsin General Chamber of Commerce, held the following day.

Captain Symonds, of the str. *Kungping* which was supplied with a one-pounder Hotchkiss gun for the purpose of destroying mines reports from Taku that a tipping mine was exploded by him in the Howki Channel, four miles south of Great Bamboo Island. The mine was right in the track of steamers, and Capt. Symonds feels certain that, without the gun, he would not have been able to destroy it as it was floating very low in the water.

Mr. James McLachlan, who died at 8.11 p.m. on June 21st, at the Government Civil Hospital, was buried next day. He had been in the hospital, suffering from a heart affection, for about three weeks. He has been in the Far East for many years, having at one time been a Chief Engineer in the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company. He then, occupied the post of Manager of the Hongkong Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders—a position he vacated six months ago to start in business for himself, coaching engineers for their examinations, and as a consulting engineer. He was very popular among seafaring men.

The *N.C. Daily News* of June 23rd reports—In the minutes of the committee meeting of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce published yesterday morning, it was noted that a sub-committee had been appointed to interview the Consul-General for Japan at Shanghai with reference to the stoppage of trade at Newchwang owing to all transport facilities by land and water being monopolised by the Japanese military authorities. We are courteously informed that the sub-committee had an interview yesterday morning with Mr. Odagiri, who kindly undertook to telegraph to Newchwang on the subject, and urge the authorities to assist as much as possible the movement of goods into the interior.

The Hongkong correspondence of the *N.C. Daily News* includes the following facetious item:—There is talk of damage by landslides, etc., but when you remember that four out of every five acres here stand on their edges (like a Shanghai motor-car rounding a corner) a peripatetic backyard here and there is not to be wondered at. To one who has surveyed the Peak district, it would be no surprise to read advts. like this: "Strayed away, two tennis courts. Answers to 'Sl n'holme.'" Or like this: "Sweet-potato patch missing since Friday bedtime. Anyone detaining after this will be litigated. Information desired by 'Anxious Adam,' The Precipice."

WHERE OPHIR STOOD.

(Daily Press, 27th June.)

Where was Ophir? With the recent increase of our relations with Arabia, more especially Yemen and Hadramaut, as well as the growing importance of Mashonaland, the question has considerably more than a mere academic interest. The question is, moreover, quite distinct from the cognate enquiry as to whence came the gold of Ophir. This latter question may be considered as set at rest by the modern discovery of the remains of extensive ancient gold workings, as well as of extensive ruined cities in the districts between the Zambezi and the Limpopo rivers in South Africa, taken in connection with the accounts in the Books of Kings and Chronicles, of the naval expeditions organised by king SOLOMON in conjunction with his close ally HIRAM of Tyre. One of the first objects of King SOLOMON was to obtain a satisfactory foothold on the Idumean peninsula, where he founded the city of Elath; and having thus obtained command of the Gulf of Akaba, he proceeded to build a fleet of sea-going merchant vessels, with the object of trading in the more distant parts of the Erythrian Seas, a term which anciently covered not only the Red Sea of to-day, but included the Persian Gulf, and all the western portion of the Indian Ocean. Nearly two hundred years later, in the reign of AMAZIAH, we find Elath still in possession of the kings of Judah, so that we may consider the keeping open of the trade with the Sofala Coast to have been part of the traditional policy of the Jewish monarchy. The Jews in King SOLOMON'S time were only gradually emerging from their nomadic condition; they never, even to the end, took kindly to the sea, and SOLOMON was entirely dependent on his friend and neighbour HIRAM for the construction and manning of the fleet. On the other hand, HIRAM was glad of the military assistance of SOLOMON, as also of the opportunity, afforded by the understanding of opening to Phœnician commerce the whole of the Eastern seas, where trade had hitherto been a practical monopoly in the hands of the inhabitants of Arabia, whether Nabatæans, Minæans or Sabæans. This treaty had, in fact, more far reaching consequences than have been usually credited to it; and was largely instrumental in the growth of Mediterranean commerce, with its concomitant result the increase of political power in Carthage, Greece and Rome. A conservative estimate of the value of the gold actually extracted during this period from the South African mines places it at, at least, seventy five millions sterling, and of this the greater part seems to have found its way to the coasts of the Mediterranean.

The question: Whence came the "Gold of Ophir?" a phrase which for long centuries was in current use, is thus easily answered. The origin of the phrase is not of such simple explanation, and hundreds of controversies have risen over it. The Periplus of the Erythrian Sea speaks of Aphir the metropolis of CHARIBÆL, King of the Homerites, and this has always been identified with Ophir; it seemingly occurs with PLINY as Saphar or Saba. Not improbably we have here a reference to the kingdom of Sabæa, and hence even in the days of DAVID before SOLOMON'S alliance with the QUEEN of Sheba, we find the gold of Ophir already become proverbial. It is, however, notorious that the land of the Sabæans never, itself, produced gold, and it has always been concluded that it was merely the point of distribution, the gold being produced in the South African lands

between the Zambezi and the Limpopo, and that ages before the time of king SOLOMON, the ancient inhabitants of Sabæa made voyages to the Sabi River, but with true Arabian cunning they kept the secret to themselves. There is no improbability in the surmise, which may be accepted as the true explanation so far. But the very indefiniteness of the name Ophir seems to suggest that it was not confined to a particular spot, and herein it is on a par with many other names in or about ancient Arabia. Where, for instance, was the land of Punt, whence came the first emigrants to Egypt? We find it as difficult of definition; it has been placed in the Sinaitic Peninsula, in South Arabia, in Somali Land, and on the Zimbezi. Who were the Ethiopians? HOMER makes MEMNON their Chief, a son of Eos, the Dawn Goddess, and old Greek tradition connects them with Susiana. HERODOTUS puts them in Abyssinia, and later authorities even further west in the land of Lybia. Where was the original Erythra which gave its name to the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf and the Red Sea? ARRIAN in his Periplus of the voyage of NEARCHUS would place it in the island of Bahrain in the Persian Gulf, where he says ERYTHRAS, its first king was buried. But ERYTHRAS here can only be a translation of ADAM, the Red; and this brings us in touch with the very old legend that the Punic peoples, whom some would associate with Punt, really emigrated some five thousand years ago from these very regions.

Such repetitions of names have always been common amongst migratory nations. The index to the Times Atlas contains awenty Yorks; Professor KEANE, an unacknowledged authority on ancient ethnology, while he tells us that Ophir was undoubtedly in Southern Arabia, would have us believe that the Land of Havilah where, according to the Book of Genesis, "there was Gold," was situated at or about Sofala on the east coast of South Africa. This is very like saying that York is undoubtedly in Yorkshire, but that Eboracum must be looked for in America on the banks of the Hudson River. As a fact, Ophir, Sapher, Sheba, Sofala and Havilah, and probably many other places are one and the same. True, Semitic scholars will have none of this. All Semitic roots, say they, are tri-literal, and Ophir, A. F. R., is no exception; the bones must remain, and the only possible variation is in the covering of flesh and skin. This is, however, only begging the question: Is Ophir Semitic? There is no proof that it is, but much presumptive evidence that it is at least pre-Semitic. And this brings us in contact with one of the oldest of old world legends,—that of the Garden of Eden. There is much presumptive evidence to connect the legend with the upper part of the Persian Gulf. There were, at all events four rivers there; Euphrates; Hiddekel, that is: Tigris; Gihon, the Persian Huvaspa, now the Kerkha, which embraces the land of Kush, the Greek Kissia; and finally, Pison, the Pasitigris of the Greeks, "which compasseth the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold." We find the legend of Paradise duplicated in the Zend Avésta, and in the same region, where appropriately enough the two most ancient civilisations, that of the Blond Iranians, and that of the "Red," (Adamic, Ethiopian, Erythrian, Idumean or Himyaric), Proto-Somites first came in contact. Here according to the Aban Yasht, is the holy land of Hukairya with its precipices, "made of gold," down which tumbles the ever living spring, and where the fair goddess

Ardvi-gura-anahita, Lady of Increase, the equivalent at once of the Babylonian Nana and the Hebrew Khavah, "Mother of all living," is ever present to be invoked by her worshippers.

Now Hukairya in Zend, as Havilah in Hebrew, have no inherent meaning; the two words may, however, be accepted as identical, the change of guttural *k* to *v* being of the commonest: Khwarisma changes to Urva, Hyrkania to Vehrkania, &c. Both are connected, curiously enough, with gold; but gold certainly now does not occur in Susiana. ONESIKRATES, however, quoted by STRABO, speaks of the rivers of the adjoining province of Kerman yielding gold dust, and AFZAL KERMANI tells of the soil of Jirust being gold, and adds that gold was formerly found in its dust. Probably, then, at the beginning of human history, there did exist alluvial washings along the stream of the Karun, in the course of time exhausted, when other Ophirs were found. If we are right in placing Havilah or Hukairya on the ancient Pasitigris, we find the name still surviving in a but slightly altered form. There is no doubt about the identity of the ancient Pasitigris with the modern Karun. Now actually the Karun compasseth the province of Hawiza, which although not literally a land of gold, is still a rich country carrying on a great trade in wheat and sugar, and exporting largely to India. Its capital town is Ahwaz, in which we find the same phonetic elements; and this is probably the result of Chaldean intercourse. At all events in the Book of DANIEL, and also in EZEKIEL, we find the phrase "Gold of Ophir" giving way to the form "Gold of Uphaz." There is little doubt that the same word is intended, but the scribe accustomed to the then more modern form of Hawiza for the older Havilah, transliterated it in Chaldean fashion as Uphaz. According to KIEPERT the most ancient name of Susiana was Afarti; and PLINY places here on the River Eulacus, the town of Forath, so that the chain of evidence connecting original Ophir with the head of the Persian Gulf is fairly complete.

NATIONAL COMPACTS, ENTENTES, AND ALLIANCES.

(Daily Press 28th June.)

The difficulty which arose with regard to the action of the French in Cochín-China in allowing the Russian war vessels to remain so long upon their coasts is strongly illustrative of the degree to which alliances make a times become embarrassing; and of the necessity of extreme reservation and caution in coming to such arrangements. Like all agreements which extend over any length of time, they necessarily depend very much upon the discretion and good faith of the parties to them. Where these two essentials are wanting, such agreements may, as time goes on, assume a very different aspect to that which they had at their inception. If both parties are willing to act not only with scrupulous fairness but with calm and deliberate judgment, such understandings may often prove of signal advantage; but unfortunately this cannot be always relied upon, and it is consequently necessary, at the outset, to know very well with whom one is dealing in such matters. It is too much to be feared from all its traditions—to say nothing of acts within recent memory—that the Russian Government is not one upon which prudent persons can care to have to place too much reliance either for discretion or scrupulous good faith. In private life it is looked upon as a very poor thing for anyone to presume

upon another's friendliness to the extent of forcing him into a false position, or inducing him to accede to unreasonable demands; but such action is unfortunately not unheard of; and exactly the same principle applies to a friendship between two nations, when it takes the form of compact, *entente* or definite alliance. In time of war, a door is opened to call upon an ally to observe what is speciously called a friendly neutrality. A good deal of irregularity, not to say absolute injustice, may easily be perpetrated upon this somewhat loose basis. Such an understanding being once arrived at, it is impossible exactly to limit the extent to which it may proceed. As long as the friendliness is confined to acts of a negative character, there is not much that can be urged against it. But it is apt to go very much further than this. The telescope may be placed to the blind eye in a way which becomes much more than purely negative action; and in addition to this it may happen that demands may be made upon the complacency of a friendly neutral nation with whom the one at war in another quarter is on terms of alliance, of a kind which it would not think of making in any other quarter, and thus the unpleasant result of general friendship is that the nation which is most friendly is precisely the one that is placed in a difficult and dangerous position.

Such, indeed, seems to have been the state of affairs between France and Russia, and, without throwing the blame unduly upon the latter, there seems hardly room to doubt that she presumed in a most unjustifiable manner upon the friendship and general alliance of France, and was supremely indifferent whether she involved that country in difficulties, if her own ends might be served thereby. This is a kind of friendship which it is somewhat difficult to appreciate; and it is a warning as to the danger of alliance in general terms with any nation which cannot be fully relied upon not to abuse the position. The *entente* between France and Russia was always considered to be in connection merely with European politics and has not even been interpreted to extend to matters in the Far East. This position was accepted when the war between Russia and Japan broke out; and it would be absurd to expect that France would be willing to depart from it at a time when the fortunes of war had placed Russia in a serious plight. An endeavour to force France into the trouble by making an improper use of her shores and dragging her into breaches of neutrality cannot but be regarded as a poor return for such acts of legitimate friendship as she has been willing to accord. If the *entente* between Russia and France was such that the latter was called upon to join in the war with Japan, she ought clearly to have been asked to do so at the outset and to have been consulted on the diplomatic steps to be taken and upon the desirability or otherwise of going to war at all. It requires a person to see things with truly Russian eyes to imagine that any compact can be construed in such a way as to throw upon either side the enormous responsibility of entering upon a war at the mere bidding of the other. Such, however, is apparently the idea of friendship on the part of Russia; like that of good King HENRY the Fifth who loved France so much that he "would not lose a village of it," Russia was so much attached to her ally that she did not hesitate to announce that she would regard it as an "unfriendly action" if France did not continue to do what, upon every principle of international laws, was a distinct violation of neutrality.

It was very little likely that French statesmen would take long to estimate the value of so plausible an argument; and it is, indeed, marvellous that even Russia should have ventured to put forward so specious a plea. It amounted to a definite hint that unless France were willing to stretch a point in favour of Russia and against Japan, the former would begin to consider whether she would not withdraw from the *entente* with regard to political matters in Europe. If friendly understandings are to be used in this manner it may well be said: "Save me from my friends." The incident, however, is only one among many which must all have tended in the direction of lessening the bonds between France and Russia which, in truth, must always have been felt to be of a somewhat doubtful character, seeing that Russia is quite as ready to lean towards Germany, and that it would be a pure matter of interest and expediency upon which side she would throw her influence in any matters of disagreement which might arise between France and that country. Of this the French must be fairly convinced by the present time; and they can hardly be expected to value Russian friendliness sufficiently to be ready to rush into a war which could bring them no advantage and might lead to serious disaster both abroad and at home.

CHINESE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Daily Press, 29th June.

Although some of the more thoughtful of British politicians have of late taken more than one occasion to point out the impropriety of attempts on the part of their Parliament to interfere with purely Colonial questions, there would seem to be but little improvement in this respect. The opportunities of making party capital in this manner are too tempting; and it is not surprising that an occasion was again seized to air all the well worn complaints against Chinese labour in South Africa. The wire-pullers, however, cannot be highly congratulated on their success in this particular direction. Indeed, the last debate which took place in the House of Lords on this favourite subject is little short of depressing. The remarks made by the noble lords who undertook to dogmatise on this subject display a complete ignorance of the true state of matters both in China and in South Africa and an equal ignorance of facts familiar to everyone who has any practical knowledge of the matter. That it is possible to make party capital out of a question of this kind is a serious matter, and this consideration may, indeed, be regarded as the most important bearing of the debate. It is assumed that the Chinese are greatly oppressed; but no single complaint has been made by them, which can by any plausibility be stretched beyond the kind of grumbling that is certain from time to time to be indulged in by any persons against their employers. Even such minor complaints have been very few, but it will be astonishing if the lesson which these indiscreet persons are constantly teaching the Chinese be not taken to heart by them and if they do not better the instruction by raising difficulties and finding grounds for discontent which would otherwise never have occurred to them. This, no doubt, would be precisely what would best suit those who are pulling the wires in this matter and are setting a number of well meaning but ill-informed people in England to do an amount of mischief of the extent of which they have little idea. The BISHOP OF HEREFORD seems to have specially

dis-tinguished himself in the direction of those fine broad platitudes which are so often successful with the large section of the public at home who are governed by catch words. The Chinese in the Transvaal are "an offensive yellow blot on our Empire of Freedom, and a triumph for the capitalists." The blot being yellow and the people benefiting by it being capitalists is particularly forcible; but in what possible way Freedom—in the sense in which the word is used by the BISHOP—is interfered with by a labour contract fairly entered into and justly carried out is possibly clearer to the BISHOP than to the public at large. The ridiculous part of the matter is that the amount of freedom that is really given up by the Chinese is exactly the same as that which is of necessity given up in entering upon any contract whatever—the surrender (to take Anson's definition) of a right for a consideration. A man is free to walk over all his lands; but if he leases a portion of them he gives up his freedom to walk over that particular part. The employers cannot engage labourers otherwise than for a term and the Chinese are not disposed to leave their country without being certain of employment for a fixed period, and it is surely no invasion of the freedom on either side that the engagement should be made for such a time as will suit both parties, in precisely the same manner as is the case in engagements made in all directions for employment for a term. Mercantile and professional men and even public servants constantly make contracts for their "labour" on this basis; and the only point at which it could be said there is an invasion of the Chinese labourers' freedom would be if, in the place where he has to carry out his contract, he was unduly deprived of the rights of protection and of the justice which everyone is entitled to look for who is under the British flag. Hitherto there has not been the slightest indication of anything of this kind. The Chinese certainly enjoy as much free labour in South Africa as they would have in any other British Colony and much more than they would have in their own country. What, therefore, is there to be said in support of this repeated cry of "slavery" and of the terrible yellow blot which troubled the BISHOP OF HEREFORD?

It is some consolation to find that arguments of this kind did not commend themselves to all the Prelates in the House of Lords and that the ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY frankly admitted that every precaution had been taken to safeguard the welfare of the Chinese; but expressed surprise that the Blue Book did not mention the influence of the Chinese on the morality of the community. The reason would probably be easily apparent to him if he were in any way acquainted with the state of matters in the Transvaal or had any knowledge of the extent to which the Chinamen abroad form a community of their own and keep clear of the people. So far as the European population is concerned their influence may be considered as a very negligible quantity, and as to the natives, there are few Chinese who would think of associating with them on familiar terms, any more than Europeans would; and even if they did so, it is quite a question whether the average morality of the African native is not in reality lower than that of the worst Chinese.

It is not very surprising that "the subject dropped," but unfortunately this is not the end of the matter. Such a debate could not fail to be a direct encouragement to the Chinese to endeavour to get up grievances and, were

they a less level-headed set of people, they would certainly be induced to do so. On the whole, however, the Chinese, though prone to strikes, are sufficiently shrewd to know when they are well off; and it will be time enough for their enthusiastic friends in England to concern themselves on their behalf, when the Celestials have discovered some grievances themselves.

THE CHINESE FAILURE TO UNITE.

(Daily Press, 30th June).

At first blush, the now widely spreading movement against everything American would seem to argue that we have all along been wrong in believing that patriotism as Europeans understand it, is foreign to the Chinese nature. It has often been said, and so far as we know, left uncontradicted by the sinologues, that this cohesive quality was the one thing lacking to make the Yellow Peril a reality. Apparently there is a something leavening the Chinese mass now that makes for cohesion and unity; and it is for us, as well as for the Americans, to ascertain what it is. Is it pure patriotism that makes the Chinese merchant from Singapore to Tientsin refuse to buy or sell any more American goods, that makes the native Christian forsake his American pastor for a minister of some other nationality, and that even makes the casual coolie look for employment that is not remunerated with American money? Mr. ELLIOTT I. OSGOOD, M.D., of Chuchou says it is; that it is "a new-born patriotism" that is rapidly extending a Chinese popular prejudice against the American Exclusion Act amongst thousands who neither intend nor hope to visit American shores. These are agitating, he says, that the privilege of freer entrance and transit may not be withheld from their more favoured brethren. Frankly, we do not believe it. We do not believe that it is patriotism at all. Patriotism is not a thing of mushroom growth, and Dr. Osgood's reference to it as "new-born" is an admission that there was no patriotism previously observable. We consider that it is the old anti-foreign prejudice revived in a modified and limited shape, and none the less strong because its expression has a more plausible excuse this time than it has had in the past. Given a general prejudice like that,—and few consider that it has ever been more than dormant, like the menagerie lion's loathing of his trainer—and a fresh grievance, it is not difficult to understand why there should be presented the semblance of a united China. Dr. Osgood himself suggests our explanation by the statement that "the newspapers are following the style of foreign newspapers and picturing the case in as lurid colours as possible. Consequently the Chinese are being aroused." It is no part of our purpose to deny that the American Exclusion Act is just as much a creature of prejudice as is the Chinese boycott; and for it we have at present neither justification nor blame. The Chinese side of the question alone engages our attention; and the answer to the question mooted at the outset is of absorbing interest to all foreigners. For if this be, indeed, a nascent patriotism that is spreading throughout China, there is ample material for both hope and fear. It has been the absence of any true patriotism that has made foreign encroachments so easy and so safe. It has been the same lack that has prevented the best foreign teachings from bearing fruit and benefiting China. If it be true that the virus of national esprit has indeed entered the

sluggish blood of this people, fear must come to the foreigner, and the converts to the belief in a Yellow Peril would be many. With patriotism they could do great things, and at first the foreigner within the gates could not hope to enjoy his present eminence in commerce, in politics, in all things Chinese. Yet as enlightenment waits on patriotism for the Chinese, so hope would wait on fear for the foreigner. The period of change would be uncomfortable for him, as the spring-cleaning is disturbing to the male householder; but afterwards there would be a better, an appreciably better, state of things. As Chinese patriotism means a great spring-cleaning, the importance of the recent movement to the world (as well as to America) depends upon the extent to which it can be described as patriotic. We have quoted the Chuchou Doctor's opinion: we will now quote Mr. CONGER, late American Minister at Peking. He is said to disbelieve that the American boycott is on a wholesale scale. He somewhat obscurely says it is a political, rather than a commercial movement. "The Chinese were politicians before America was discovered. Exclusion chiefly affects coolies, and Chinese merchants do not bother about coolies." If they do not "bother about coolies," we can dismiss their patriotism at once; but we fancy Mr. CONGER is wrong in his premises. The Chinese agitators are certainly under the impression that the American legislation affects more than coolies. Altogether, we are at a loss to catch Mr. CONGER's drift. A political Chinaman must be in some degree a patriotic Chinaman, and both have been regarded as practically non-existent. But assuming that the alleged political side of the Chinaman is now showing uppermost, surely the movement hostile to America is the more likely to be serious; and Mr. CONGER appears to be emulating the apocryphal ostrich which buried its head in the sand to escape observation. We have not hitherto regarded the American boycott as anything more important than a paroxysm of anti-foreign prejudice created by a sudden perception of the apparent injustice of those who had been ostentatiously posing as friends of China. Believing that the Chinese commercial instinct, that is, the self interest of the individual, would be too strong for his "new-born patriotism," we did not and do not anticipate an effectual boycott. American trade may suffer for a time, perhaps even for a long time in a small way; but the Chinaman's reluctance to let good business go past him may be counted upon to nip the present "patriotic" sentiment in the bud. Already there are traitors in the camp. What one Chinaman resigns, another eagerly takes up, and so it has always been in China. When the coastal Chinese were fighting to prevent the landing of the foreign devil, their inland neighbours went about their business. This was not their business, they thought. So now there are Chinese who are taking up American agencies while their compatriots suspend business to preach a crusade against the perfidious Yankee. Sending to such a rudely drawn picture of a dagger may scare here and there an odd one; but it will not make for the necessary unity. It will not, in a word, breed patriots or patriotism. The news that Chinese "patriots" in Shanghai had attacked a fellow countryman who persisted in having dealings with Americans sounded, for us, the death-knell of this "national movement," inaugurated with so much palaver and trumpeting. It also confirmed us in our disbelief of the confident assertion of one Chinese journal that "China is united

on the present question." The movement may still be sufficiently serious to scare America into modifying the objectionable legislation; but some judicious diplomatic delay, after the manner of China, would, we are confident, see this great national movement die of inanition. As the local feeling that prompts the restrictions, and the other that wishes for American commercial progress in China, are not shared by the same people, there will not be any more united front in America on the subject; and it is impossible to say what will be the ultimate decision. In probability, however, it will be as we have suggested. America will mark time, the Chinese will simmer down, and the status quo will continue.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held at the Council Chamber on the 29th June. There were present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

H.E. MAJOR-GENERAL VILLIERS HATTON C.B. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir H. S. BERKELEY, K.C. (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Captain L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Sir C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. WEI YUK.

Hon. Mr. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. Mr. GERSHOM STEWART.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

The minutes of the previous meeting, meeting No. 4 of the present year, were confirmed.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, I beg to move that the report of the Finance Committee (No. 3) be adopted.

Hon. COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and it was carried.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL—Sir, I beg to move that the Council resolve itself into Committees of the whole Council on the Bill entitled An Ordinance to facilitate the transfer of land in the New Territories and for the settling of disputes in respect thereof and for other purposes.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and it was carried.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL—As a result of the further consideration which has been given to this Bill, it is proposed that in Clause 5 the word "instrument" shall be followed by the words "judgment, order or Lis Pendens." This is proposed owing to the limited interpretation previously given to the word "instrument."

This was agreed.

The Council resumed.

Hon. ATTORNEY GENERAL—Sir, I beg to propose the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to facilitate the transfer of land in the New Territories and for settling disputes in respect thereof and other purposes.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded and it was carried.

HIS EXCELLENCY—That is all the business before the meeting. With regard to the Bill relating to the Merchant Shipping Ordinance several amendments have been proposed, and it is necessary that they should receive consideration. The Bill will not, therefore, be brought before the Council at present. I trust it will not be necessary to call the Council together again until the Estimates are ready. The Council will adjourn sine die.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

There was afterwards a meeting of the Finance Committee, the Hon. Colonial Secretary presiding. The following votes were made:—

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Financial Minute—No. 19. The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$19,363 in aid of the vote, sanitary department, other charges, for scavenging city, villages and hill district.

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY—The vote for this year is not sufficient owing to new and extended contracts, which were dearer than last year. They were considered necessary in order to cope with the proper extermination of vermin.

Hon. MR. GERSHOM STEWART—The guarantee was \$80,000, was it not?

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY—I do not remember the exact figures. It was somewhere about that.

Hon. MR. GERSHOM STEWART—Pretty high.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—More stringent contracts have been entered into, and we have more control over the contractor.

The recommendation was agreed to.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held yesterday afternoon in the Board Room. Dr. F. Clark (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice President), Major Josling, Dr. Pearse, Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin, Mr. F. J. Badeley, Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Lau Chü Pak, Mr. H. W. Slade, Mr. A. Runjahn, and Mr. W. Bowen-Rowlands (Secretary).

A TAINTED WELL.

Mr. Frank Browne, the Government Analyst, reported on a sample of water taken from a well situated at 62a, Queen's Road Central. He found the water so tainted with impurities as to be unfit for potable purposes and likely to prove injurious to health. The well was ordered to be filled in by the owner.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics for the week ended 3rd inst. death rate per thousand per annum, showed the following figures:—British and foreign civil population, 9.9; previous week, 24.9; corresponding week last year, 5.1. Chinese population, 21.3; previous week, 23.6 corresponding week last year, 18.5.

LIMEWASHING RETURN.

During the fortnight ended 20th July 3,534 houses were limewashed in the Central District, and 3,772 in the Western District.

RAT RETURN.

During the week ended 24th instant 411 rats including 35 infected were caught in the City of Victoria, and 218 including 17 infected in Kowloon.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 26th June.

IN PROBATE JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

A DISPUTED WILL.

Probate action No. 2 of 1904 came up for decision. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. F. B. Deacon, appeared for the plaintiffs and the defendant did not appear. In this action Choy Ho-shi, Choy Kan-shi and Choy Shing were plaintiffs, and Choy Chong defendant. It was an action brought by the plaintiffs who claimed to be the executresses and executor of the last will and codicil, made respectively on the 16th September, 1902, and the 25th July, 1903, of Choy Chan, deceased, who died on the 10th March, 1904; and to establish such will and codicil in solemn form. The plaintiffs were two of the wives and one of the sons of the deceased. The defendant, who was another of the sons of the deceased, opposed the grant of probate of the will and codicil on two grounds:—First because the deceased was of unsound mind when he executed the codicil, and secondly that the execution thereof was obtained by the exercise of undue influence by the plaintiff Choy Ho-shi and one Tong Lai Chuen, who, the defendant alleged, frequently represented to the deceased that he, the defendant, and his two brothers, Choy Yan and Choy Yee, who were all disinherited by the codicil, were spendthrifts, and worthless charac-

ters. The deceased was a man of great wealth, as his estate in the Colony was estimated by the sworn affidavit at about \$1,000,000, on application for probate.

Mr. F. B. Deacon, the solicitor for the plaintiffs, gave evidence that Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon were the solicitors for the plaintiffs and had conducted the matter. Due notice of trial had been sent to Messrs. Ewens, Harston and Harding, who appeared on record as the defendant's solicitors. Witness knew the deceased for about ten years before his death, and attended to nearly all his business matters which their firm did for the deceased. Witness was a witness to both will and codicil, and considered deceased at the time they were executed to be of sound mind.

After further evidence His Lordship decreed in favour of the plaintiffs and ordered that the defendant should pay the costs of the action.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE TAI WING V. CHEUNG YAU PO.

The plaintiff claimed from the defendant \$329.20 for coal supplied. Mr. R. Harding appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Master for the defendant.

The defence was that whereas the plaintiffs were suing the defendant for the balance of coal delivered to several steam launches. The money paid by the defendant on various dates was paid through him, as the real contractor had left Hongkong to go to the country on account of illness. This man came to the defendant and asked him while he was away, if he would kindly receive certain sums of money. The defendant had nothing to do with the steam launches, and Leung Kin-shan, the real charterer, had died.

After hearing the case His Honour gave judgment for the defendant with costs.

Wednesday, 28th June.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

NGAI SAM V. LI WAI TONG AND ANOTHER.

This was a claim for \$841.38, balance due for work done by a sub-contractor working on the Yunnan Railway. Mr. P. W. Goldring appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. G. Hastings, for the defendant.

The plaintiff's case was that a certain Polish gentleman came to the Colony and entered into a contract that the two defendants should construct certain sections of the line. This contract was signed at the office of Messrs. Palmer & Turner and at that of Messrs. Leigh & Orange. Next, the two defendants entered into a sub-contract with the plaintiff, that time being at the end of October or the beginning of November last year. The plaintiff employed 50 men and went to Yunnan to carry out this contract. The rates were originally verbal, and then set out in a little book. The men left by steamer on the 7th November, and arrived at Yunnan and commenced work on the 27th November. The work went on till the 24th February, a considerable amount being executed. Two sums of money were paid to the plaintiff, \$1,000 on the 2nd February, and \$800 on the 3rd February. There was a balance due, however, and it was for this that the plaintiff was suing. The second defendant was applied to, but refused to pay any more. A petition was made to the Mandarin down there, and he had the work measured. An account payable by the first defendant at Hongkong, in the name of the second defendant, in favour of the plaintiff was then made out. On arriving at Hongkong the plaintiff failed to obtain the money, and legal proceedings were commenced.

Mr. Pollock's defence was that the first defendant had nothing to do with the matter, except that he stood guarantee to the Polish gentleman for the second defendant and another in the sum of \$50,000. He, furthermore, put forward that the second defendant had paid the plaintiff more than was due to him.

From the evidence it appeared that the plaintiff made a measurement which the second defendant would not agree to, and a French surveyor was called upon. This man's measurement was not satisfactory to the plaintiff, who made a third measurement as he alleged with the Mandarin.

Judgment was given for the defendants, respectively, with costs.

Thursday, 29th June.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. F. T. PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND MR. A. G. WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

AN EXTRADITION CASE.

The Full Court sat yesterday morning to hear further argument respecting the case of Wong Ka Cheung, whose extradition is applied for by the Chinese Government. The Attorney General (Hon. Sir H. S. Berkeley, K.C.) and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by the Crown Solicitor (Mr. F. B. L. Bowley), represented the Crown, and Mr. H. N. Ferrers, instructed by Mr. Otto Kong Sing, appeared on behalf of the prisoner.

The Attorney General stated that he appeared in support of a motion which the Crown was making for the discharge of a rule absolute for the writ of *habeas corpus*. At the last hearing the Chief Justice reserved three points. Mr. Ferrers had put forward that the requisition for the prisoner's surrender, though nominally for an extradition crime, was in fact made with a view to punish him for an offence which was not an extradition crime. This was a bare assertion. The prisoner had given no evidence to show that the extradition was applied for in order to punish him for a non-extradition crime. The next point reserved was that the prisoner had not been proved guilty as required by Article 21 of the Treaty of Tientsin. It raised a very serious question with respect to the validity, if not of the whole of the Extradition Ordinance, at all events, of certain sections of it, and that question must be settled by the Court. That question was the *ultra vires* of the legislature. What the words "on proof of their guilt" meant was no more and no less than on production of evidence of guilt. The expression used in the Treaty was not on conclusive proof, but on proof of guilt; that is to say, on evidence of guilt, sufficient to justify a committal for trial, that is to say on *prima facie* evidence of guilt. Proof meant judicial proof, which was defined as evidence (which word includes *prima facie* as well as other evidence) conveyed in a judicial manner by judicial methods, e.g., by the testimony of a witness. The answer to the second subsidiary question:—"supposing the Magistrate to find the prisoner guilty is he entitled to his discharge because the Magistrate would have acted without authority from the Legislature and therefore beyond his jurisdiction," must also be answered in the negative, because the Legislature plainly authorises the Magistrate to commit on *prima facie* proof and there must have been *prima facie* proof if there was proof to find the prisoner guilty. It maintained that the Treaty and the Ordinance are in harmony but if there be a conflict the express declaration of the Ordinance of a Legislature acting within its jurisdiction must prevail. The treaty was it may be conceded the *raison d'être* of the Ordinance, but it did not create the jurisdiction to pass an Ordinance. That rests in the Colonial Legislature, altogether independent of the Treaty. Hongkong was not a foreign country. It was an integral part of the British empire and could not require a Treaty with a foreign country to give the Legislature jurisdiction over persons in the Colony. The next point reserved was that the evidence given before the Magistrate did not amount to *prima facie* evidence of the prisoner's guilt sufficient to warrant his committal for trial as required by Section 10. Hon. Attorney-General quoted authority to show that the Court had no power to review the decision of a Magistrate on the question of fact where the Magistrate has committed the person to extradition. He asked that the rule for *habeas corpus* be discharged.

Mr. H. N. Ferrers first dealt with the question of whether there was any *prima facie* evidence or not. He pointed out that the magistrate had not taken the evidence of the Chinese official who was actually the complainant in the case, whereas the ordinance provided that this evidence should be taken in every case.

The Judges were against Mr. Ferrers on this point, and he proceeded to another: The Hongkong Extradition Ordinance was *ultra vires*. He pointed out that by the treaty of Tientsin the British Government had agreed with the Chinese Imperial Government that they should return to Chinese jurisdiction only those criminals whose guilt had been proved, whereas the Hongkong Ordinance provided for the rendition of criminals against whom merely a *prima facie* case had been made out, and the Colonial legislature had no power to do this. It was true the magistrate had stated that he considered the guilt of this particular prisoner proved, but in so doing Mr. Hazeland had clearly overstepped his jurisdiction, and arrogated to himself the power which he did not possess. The jurisdiction of magistrates was confined to committing prisoners to trial. It was preposterous for him to presume that he could sit as judge and jury and exercise the power of life and death. The prisoner could not be extradited till his guilt had been proved, and in this case it was clear that his guilt had not been proved. Proceeding, counsel dealt with the point that the Chinese Government had an ulterior object in demanding the extradition of this prisoner. He pointed out that the crime alleged was not a particularly serious one. The prisoner had used no violence in the sense of wounding or injuring any person in the course of the robbery, and the proceeds of the robbery were of comparatively small value; but there was a proclamation before the Court issued by an officer of the Chinese Government six months after the alleged robbery, putting a reward of \$1,500 on the prisoner's head. It was, therefore, abundantly clear that the Chinese Government had something else against the prisoner which they did not choose to reveal. The alleged robbery was put forward as a pretext to secure his extradition.

Judgment was reserved.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

THE FORTHCOMING SEASON.

Mr. T. F. Hough, Clerk of the course of the Hongkong Jockey Club, convened a meeting, held at the Hongkong Hotel on June 27, to make arrangements for the Club's forthcoming season. Mr. E. W. Mitchell was in the chair and a fair number of members were present.

Mr. Hough read a letter from the Shanghai Horse Bazaar, offering to supply subscription prizes at the same price as last year, and also a letter from the Dallas Horse Repository. He recommended that the Horse Bazaar offer be accepted, the time required for the three-quarters to be 1 min. 40 sec.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK—The Horse Bazaar do you as well as anyone in the North.

Mr. FORREST suggested that they should stipulate for a mile at 2 min. 2¹/₂ sec., last quarter 3¹/₂ sec., or 2 min. 2¹/₂ sec., last quarter 3¹/₂ sec. Then they would have some notion of whether the pony could gallop, whereas an indifferent pony might run three-quarters with a feather weight on its back.

Mr. Hough made a few remarks on the distance of the race, and said if they required too high a standard they would not get ponies at the price.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK said that leaving the distance at three-quarters as last year the ponies were more unknown quantities than would be the case if the distance were a mile. He proposed that three-quarters at 1 min 40 sec. be adhered to.

Mr. JUPP seconded and it was carried.

Mr. CRUICKSHANK suggested that in writing to the Horse Bazaar they should request that the ponies be sent as near by as possible together or about the same time. There was a big gap last year.

A MEMBER—Bind them to a date.

Mr. Hough—We did that last year and had to concede the point. I will ask them to send them as much together as possible.

It was mentioned that last year's arrangement, by which, for instance, a man taking five ponies would have to wait till all single drawers had been accommodated before he could draw a second horse, should prevail.

That was all the business.

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Victoria Recreation Club was held in St. Andrew's Hall, City Hall, on 29th June. There were present:

—Messrs. Arthur Chapman (Chairman), Frank Lammert (Hon. Secretary), S. A. Seth (Treasurer), F. W. White, M. A. C. Souza, M. A. R. Souza, F. W. Bains, T. Blair, L. A. Musso, T. E. Pearce, E. W. Mitchell, C. N. Brett, E. Humphreys, T. C. Gray, G. A. Caldwell, E. B. Hayward, C. H. Grace, E. M. Hazeland, F. P. Lenfesty, J. E. Joseph, W. Armstrong, J. H. R. Hance, T. Meek, C. E. A. Hance, H. M. Bain, J. H. Seth, H. A. Lammert, R. C. Witchell, H. Gidley, H. S. Bevan, J. Rodger, Capt. Warrick, T. Clarke, H. S. Holmes and T. C. Swaby.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some days we will, if you have no objection, follow the usual custom and take them as read. This meeting is held later than usual, the delay being unavoidable owing to the change of Secretary and Treasurer. You have all seen the Sub-Committee's reports dealing with the various departments of the Club so there is little left for me to say. I am glad to state that the anticipations of the Boat-House Sub-Committee to which I referred at the last annual meeting have been to a great extent realized, considerable interest and keenness in rowing having been shown during the past season. At our Regatta in December last we had the pleasure of welcoming crews from Canton who carried off all the open events. At the Canton Regatta the V.R.C. crews were not successful but did better than on the previous occasion. It is to be hoped that this friendly rivalry will be the means of still further improvement so that in the near future we may regain some of our lost laurels. With regard to the unfavourable situation of the Bath house to which attention is directed by the Sub-Committee I am glad to say that this matter has been taken in hand by your Committee, and permission of the Government obtained for the erection of new stages in front of the Club House. This will provide an excellent bath in deeper and, what is of still greater importance, cleaner water than at present. The work will be commenced at once and I hope to see some of our popular aquatic entertainments given there very shortly. The cost of this much-needed improvement will be \$800. The report of the Gymnasium Sub-Committee is again very disappointing. The Bar account shows a good result. I am sorry that the Balance Sheet for 1904 is not more satisfactory although on the whole things are not so bad as appears at first sight. Taking the working for the year of the Club in all the various departments there is a debit balance of only \$41.13. On the 31st December, 1904, the Club was \$549.62 better off than when we started the year, this being due to the interest on deposits. I am pleased to tell you that after clearing off the debit balance of \$997.08 in working account, this account showed on June 3rd a credit balance of \$2,401.02, which does not include the interest on deposits, or the balance from bar account. The wisdom of the small increase in annual subscription agreed to at the last general meeting being apparent. The cost of a decent bath, and the new four oared boat ordered from Clasper will thus be more than covered. You will observe that \$500 have been transferred from the Bar account back to Typhoon Fund as recommended at the last annual meeting. You were all notified in December last that circumstances had arisen which would delay the handing over of the new site. Your Committee have taken all necessary steps to safeguard the best interest of the Club. The Admiralty withdrew the notice to quit our present premises at Kowloon.

I am pleased to say that the V. R. C. Magazine, which was first published about six months ago shows every prospect of being a lasting success, which would result with more encouragement from members. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I will be pleased to answer any questions to the best of my ability.

There being no questions the motion was put to the meeting, Mr. T. C. GRAY seconded and it was carried.

Mr. E. W. MITCHELL—Gentlemen, I beg to propose the re-election of Mr. Chapman (applause). Since he has served in this office he has been a hard-working man in the past, and we cannot do better than re-elect him. He is going away at the end of the year, so we had best get the most of him, and re-elect him till he goes.

Mr. PEARCE seconded and it was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to thank you for the honour you have done me in re-electing me. I am sure you could have found someone else, but as you have chosen me I shall do all I can to further the interests of the V.R.C. while I am in the Colony. (Applause).

Mr. FRANK WHITE proposed that Mr. Frank Lammert be elected Hon. Secretary.

Mr. BLAIR seconded and it was carried.

Mr. J. HANCE proposed that Mr. S. A. Seth be elected as Hon. Treasurer.

Mr. CYRIL HANCE seconded and it was carried.

The following Committees were elected by ballot:—

Committee: Messrs. Armstrong, Crake, Caldwell, Grace, Gray, Hazeland, Meek, Mitchell and Rodger.

Balloting Committee: Messrs. Cruickshank, C. D. A. Hance, J. H. R. Hance, R. Henderson, H. A. Lammert, M. McIver, A. P. Nobbs, T. E. Pearce, F. W. White and R. C. Witchell.

That was all the business.

THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was held on June 22nd at the Museum, Shanghai. Sir Pelham Warren presided, and was able to comment on a year of more than usual activity and progress. The report was adopted and the following officials were elected for the coming year:—President, Sir Pelham Warren; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. H. B. Morse and T. W. Kingsmill; Hon. Sec., Dr. J. C. Ferguson; Hon. Treas., Mr. J. West; Hon. Librarian, Mr. W. Sheldon Ridge; Hon. Curator, Dr. A. Stanley; Councillors, Dr. T. Richard, Dr. C. Schirmer and Messrs. J. Menzies, and C. H. Br-witt-Taylor.—A special resolution recorded the loss to the Society caused by the death of Dr. Edkins; another authorised the taking of steps to provide a new building for the Society; and a third concerned the appointment of a special committee to provide a fitting celebration on the 26th of October, 1907, of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Society.

SIR THOMAS JACKSON'S STATUE.

The statue of Sir Thomas Jackson, Bart., which is to be erected on one of the vacant plots in front of the premises of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, was completed before last mail left London, and will arrive here very shortly. Signor Raggi, to whom Sir Thomas gave four sittings, has been engaged on this work for nearly eighteen months, including a delay at the foundry of two months. The statue is in bronze, and represents Sir Thomas wearing a frock-coat. The figure is ten feet high and is to be erected on a pedestal eleven feet high. In an interview with a representative of our London office, Signor Raggi mentioned that Sir Thomas' family are very pleased with the statue, considering it an excellent likeness. The artist had that day sent the model of the Jubilee statue of the late Queen Victoria to the foundry in order to execute two orders he has for replicas of the one in Hongkong. One goes to South Africa and the other to Toronto. The statue of Sir Thomas reflects great credit on Signor Raggi who for the past forty years has resided in London; and will doubtless enhance that artist's reputation as an able sculptor.

COMPANIES.

S. C. FARNHAM, BOYD & CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of Messrs. Farnham, Boyd & Co., was held at Shanghai on June 23rd, and lasted an hour and a-half. Mr. Twentyman gave a lengthy explanation of the negotiations carried on by Mr. Prentice and himself, with the object of selling the company to a London syndicate. He referred to and commented on the letters addressed to the directors by certain shareholders, and showed that the holding of an extraordinary meeting was not definitely requested, but was left to the directors' discretion, and then briefly sketched the history of the company.

On the report and accounts being left open to discussion, Mr. F. E. Taylor rose and, in a lengthy speech, attacked Mr. Twentyman's policy, sketched the gradual diminution of profits during the last few years, and commented on the fact that, whereas the profits of the company had been on the decrease, the tonnage of vessels entering Shanghai had, since 1901, increased by nearly 400,000 tons. He suggested that economy might be effected in the direction of the directors' salaries, which, he said, amounted to about £18,000 per annum, or at the present rate of exchange, over £10,000 a year. He deplored the fact that many of the company's best employees had left and joined rival concerns. Mr. Taylor said it was deplorable that Shanghai's biggest industry, and the most important British interest on the Yangtze, should be used as a huge machine for Stock Exchange gambling.

Mr. Twentyman replied to Mr. Taylor, in a speech which was several times interrupted, and the report and accounts having been passed by a minority of shareholders—most present abstaining from voting—the meeting ended; and the extraordinary meeting for the reconstruction of the company was opened.

Mr. Twentyman made a long speech defining the objects of this reconstruction, but said he did not wish to force it on the shareholders, and that the directors would not care if it was not passed. The resolution was put to the meeting, but was not carried, as the requisite majority did not vote in favour of it.—N.-C. Daily News.

THE NEW AMOY DOCK CO., LTD.

The report of the New Amoy Dock Co., Ltd., for 1904 shows a debt balance in profit and loss account of \$10,261. "This unfortunate result," the General Manager says, "however disappointing to shareholders, only instances, what should be always realised, that the nature of the company's business renders fluctuating results inevitable. During the year work has been scarce, and not of a remunerative character."

NEWSPAPERS IN CHINA.

A FIELD FOR FOREIGN MATERIAL.

The United States Consul at Hangchow calls the attention of paper manufacturers to the notable fact that this port, which is one of the paper-exporting points in China, and which has been the centre of a paper-making district for centuries, is importing about two-thirds as much paper, in value, as it exports.

About half the imported paper has been unsized and uncalendered news print of a grade similar, though rather inferior, to the paper used to newspapers in the United States, and about half has been a sized light weight book paper of medium quality. The inferior news paper has been coming from Japan. Both varieties have been brought in in sizes suitable for small newspaper and pamphlet work.

The Consul is of opinion that the prices at which paper of good quality sells are such that paper manufacturers ought to be able to sell first-class paper at a fair profit. The number of newspapers of all languages printed in China is constantly increasing, and as this increase comes the inability of the natives to manufacture suitable paper in the required quantities at reasonable rates will become more and more apparent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A QUESTION OF OFFICERS.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"]

SIR,—Kindly allow me through the medium of your columns to congratulate the gentlemen who have recently been appointed 2nd Lieutenants in our Volunteer Corps.

But does it not seem strange that a junior sergeant and a more junior gunner should be promoted over the heads of many competent seniors? Of course, if those responsible for their selection can prove that they are more efficient, smarter, and more suitable than any of their seniors, the matter will be explained, but that seems hardly probable.

The strength of the corps, 272 in December, 1904, as against an establishment of 426, seems hardly satisfactory, and with an expenditure of \$44,032.13, equal to \$161.83 per man, is rather an expensive item to taxpayers. The expense of the corps, of course, does not increase at the above rate, as the same staff, head quarters, &c., must be maintained for 250 as for 500 and it is to be regretted that the corps is not up to or even over the full strength. The reason of such a small number is not far to seek, if such acts of apparent injustice are very prevalent as the one recently enacted; and if such are continued the corps will become so small as to be not worth maintaining. The contention is that as taxpayers we should mete out justice but, at the same time have best value for our money.—Your &c.,

CITIZEN.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Hongkong 27th June, 1905.

SIR,—I was very pleased to see "Citizen's" letter re promotions in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps in yesterday's issue of your valuable paper. As an old Volunteer, I think the appointments of the Junior Sergeant and Gunner to the commissioned rank to be very unfair, which I have no doubt the majority, if not all, of the members who have ten years service and more in the Corps do not approve. The former has only been in the Corps a few years, and the latter is a new member and only a gunner. As there are very many much older members, why should they not be given a chance of a commission? There are still some gunners in the Corps who have had about ten years service if not more. If one wants to become a Commissioned Officer, what sort of an examination, if any, has he to go through? I believe there is no examination at all; at any rate in this case. As I do not want to take up any more of your valuable space, I leave it to some other members (old) to express their opinions.—Yours etc.,

15 POUNDER.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Hongkong 28th June.

SIR,—I have read with much interest the correspondence by "Citizen" and "15 Pounder" re the promotion of the Junior Sergeant and the Gunner, and I endorse all their remarks. I don't think this is the correct way to do things, and this will only lead to men leaving the Corps. I think commissions should be granted only to men who have the longest service in the corps and according to their merit, and before granting same the candidates should go in for an examination both practical and theoretical. I would like to mention a case in which a recruit who joined the Coronation Contingent in 1902 was at once promoted to the rank of sergeant before the contingent left for home, and on his return to the Colony he was again promoted and this time to the rank of lieutenant. I think this is a fine piece of work, and if this is the way one gets promoted in the H.K.V.C. there is hardly any hope of ever increasing the number of men in the corps to any great extent.

With regard to increasing the number of men in the Corps up to about 500, the only inducement is to have a few infantry companies in addition to the present artillery companies. For the last three years the sole cause of the majority of men resigning from the corps was

the abandoning of the Machine Gun and Infantry Companies, which was a very unwise thing. It does not follow that every one likes to join an artillery company. I will not be a bit surprised to see the membership of the corps dwindle down to about 100 men in time to come. If the officers wish to see the numbers increase, they must please the men or else it will be a failure so far as increasing the number of men is concerned. I want to know why the infantry company was wiped out. Is it useless to have an infantry company? Decidedly not.—Yours etc.,

INFANTRY COMPANY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Hongkong 29th June, 1905.

SIR,—I was very pleased, indeed, to read "15 Pounder's" letter as regards the promotions in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps. I am more pleased that a member has come forward to give vent to his feelings. The promotions of the junior sergeant and gunner to a commissioned rank is both unfair and unjust. These gentlemen have got their appointments through pure favouritism, which causes a lot of ill-feeling between the old members who have served the corps for a long period and have not even a stripe to show. I am sure it was not through practical knowledge of the art of gunnery that has won them this big jump. If these appointments are not cancelled I am very much afraid that the Hongkong Volunteer Corps will be minus a few more members. Why not have an examination, say once a year, so that everyone may have a chance of rising to a higher position? It would mean, I am sure, the strengthening of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps and a name worthy of the King and Country they serve.

Hoping, Mr. Editor, I have not taken up too much of your valuable space.—I remain, Yours etc.,

LONG TOM.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"]

Hongkong, 28th June.

SIR,—I notice in to-day's issue of your paper that "15 Pounder" only invites correspondence from old members of the Corps, thinking, no doubt, that he will meet with least resistance from that quarter, since he evidently expects them to be as sore over it as he himself undoubtedly is. I may here state for his edification (and I have it from very good authority) that several old members of the Corps were offered the Commission, but preferred to remain in their present position.

It must be admitted that there are more qualifications than merely length of service required in a man of the rank and file to make him eligible for a higher position, and I am fully confident that the Sergeant and Gunner referred to in "15 Pounder's" letter will, when the time comes, prove themselves well worthy of His Excellency's Commission, both in efficiency and in commanding the respect due to them from their subordinates.

Trusting this will not take up too much space in your valuable paper.—I remain, Yours truly,

MAXIM.

CHINESE V. BRITISH JUSTICE.

The trial of the two Chinese for manslaughter caused quite a sensation at Weihaiwei. It was the first case to be tried in the High Court there. At the end of the trial, after the accused had been sentenced to seven years' penal servitude, the headman of the village in which the crime occurred asked to be allowed to address the judge. Permission having been granted, the headman entered a strong protest against the "leniency" of the sentence. A life for a life was the law, he said, and he could not go to the village and say that the prisoners had only suffered imprisonment. His Lordship expressed regret that his sentence had not satisfied the headman, but reminded him that the case was tried under English law and that he could not pass a more severe sentence. Under Chinese law one of the prisoners would probably have suffered death by the lingchi process for parriicide.—The two prisoners are being brought to Hongkong to undergo their sentence.—N.-C. Daily News.

THE "SAMSON" CASE AT SHANGHAI.

We extract the following from the N.-C. Daily News law report to show the defence in the case of Pavlov v. Kristensen. It makes the case somewhat easier to understand.

Mr. Phillips said that he intended to outline briefly the case for the defence. He referred to plaintiff's career in the British army, he having been an officer in the First Royal Scots Regiment, and served on the staff of Lord Roberts during the South African war. Ward was a Baron of the Austrian Empire. It was a hereditary barony, and he was the fourth in succession. Counsel then gave the reasons for defendant's leaving the army and described his attempts to get to the front with the Japanese. After failing in this object defendant went to Tientsin, where he met Colonel Ogorodnikoff, Russian Military Attaché in Peking. It became known that Port Arthur was badly in need of medical supplies, and defendant and the Colonel talked over the matter and arranged a scheme by which medical supplies could be got into the fortress. Defendant came to Shanghai with an introduction from the Colonel to Mr. Pavlov, and when they had talked over the matter it was finally arranged that the scheme should proceed on the following lines. A Red Cross League supported by as many influential people as possible, was to be formed at home. A local branch was to be formed out here, and permission was to be sought from the Japanese authorities to remove the wounded and sick from Port Arthur by means of a hospital ship. A small vessel, ostensibly for use as a Press boat was to be purchased and sent to Port Arthur to find out what medical supplies were needed, and then a larger hospital ship would be sent in with the medical supplies, necessary for the successful continuance of the defence. Mr. Pavlov, when the details of the scheme were finally arranged, promised defendant the sum of £20,000 for his work in connection therewith, a not unreasonable sum when it was remembered that on the success of this scheme depended to a large extent the safety of Port Arthur. The medical supplies were needed there more than anything else. The besieged had plenty of food and ammunition, but the urgent need of medical supplies caused fearful suffering among the wounded at Port Arthur. Counsel did not think he need discuss the importance of the prolongation of the defence of Port Arthur. If it held out it kept a large Japanese army engaged on land, and the entire Japan fleet on the sea. At that time huge military operations were pending in Manchuria, and the Baltic Fleet was on its way out. Ultimately Port Arthur fell earlier than it might have done. The result was immediate. General Nogi assisted Marshal Oyama with his army at the battle of Mukden, with the utmost effect. It was the Port Arthur army which crushed in the Russian right and turned the defeat into a rout. The Japanese fleet was able to dock for necessary repairs and then met the Baltic Fleet with the result all knew. Up to that time for eleven months the fleet had spent a wearying time at sea, night and day, before Port Arthur, and it was a matter of absolute necessity for them to go into dock and refit before meeting the fleet which was, on paper, so powerful. It was, therefore, very important, and Mr. Pavlov recognised it, that Port Arthur should be able to continue its defence. Part of the negotiations between Mr. Pavlov and his Government had been read to the jury and, of course, the whole scheme was approved by the Russian Government and authorities. The amount required for the carrying out of the scheme was fixed, roughly, at Tls. 400,000. It was arranged that that sum should be at the disposal of Baron Ward, either in London, Paris, or Shanghai. Mr. Pavlov had himself admitted that a sum of Tls. 400,000 was alluded to. Counsel then went into a detailed statement of how this amount was made up, and described the purchase of the *Samson* and Mr. Bennett Burleigh's part in the scheme. Burleigh, Mr. Pavlov had said, was going in the interest of Russia, as a sort of counterblast to the other papers

which had not a favourable impression of the condition of the Port at the time. Burleigh was going in the interests of Russia, and the jury had heard what Mr. Pavlov had said of him the preceding day. Whenever he had an opportunity of attacking Burleigh he had done so. Counsel did not know whether this was gratitude. It seemed to him that there was a reason for it, and it was this: that Mr. Pavlov thought he could show up the conduct of one British journalist at all events, and was anxious to do so. He was anxious for the whole world to know that Burleigh went into Port Arthur as a spy, and he wanted in this way to discredit British journalism. He thought that was one of the chief reasons why the action was brought before the Court. Counsel then described how Burleigh got the information required, how a sealed letter was handed to defendant and personally taken to Mr. Pavlov by him, and how negotiations were then concluded for the purchase of the *Edendale*, as a hospital ship. Defendant would show that on the 8th of November he placed the necessary information in Mr. Pavlov's hands, and that on the following day an order was given to Messrs. Kristensen for medical supplies. The scheme fell through owing to Mr. Pavlov, who was guilty of considerable indiscretion with regard to it. He used the names of several gentlemen who had not given permission to have their names used. The Japanese Consul here found this out and communicated with his Government, with the result that that Government refused its consent to allow the medical supplies to be taken in. Counsel then dealt with the guarantee given by defendant to Messrs. Kristensen that the purchase would be effected, and plaintiff's attitude over the purchase of the *Edendale*, Messrs. Kristensen naturally wanted defendant to pay the Tls. 40,000 he had guaranteed to pay when the contract fell through. Plaintiff agreed to pay the actual expenses of bringing the ship over, amounting to upwards of Tls. 9,600, and gave them a cheque for that amount, which he asked them not to cash at that time. He told Kristensen that he had a lucrative flour contract with Vladivostok, and that he would give this contract to Kristensen & Co. as compensation for the non-payment of the Tls. 40,000. Kristensen agreed to this, and it was not until January that Mr. Pavlov showed his hand, said he had no flour contract, that he had given them one, and told them they might cash his cheque. Counsel then dealt with the bargain money handed by plaintiff to defendant, and by him to Kristensen & Co. The godown orders for medical supplies were handed to plaintiff by Messrs. Kristensen and Co. Mr. Pavlov deducted the amount of this bargain money from the cost of the medical supplies, and Kristensen agreed to this, expecting to get the flour contract promised to them. After narrating the circumstances under which the *Samson* returned to Shanghai, Counsel then put his client into the witness box.

In reply to his Lordship, Mr. Phillips added—My defence is this: plaintiff states that he brings this action in his private capacity. If I can show that he is a representative of the Russian Government it seems to me this action is not properly brought, and he will be nonsuited. If I can show he is bringing it in his private capacity, then I have a set-off against him. He brings it either in his private capacity or as agent of the Russian Government.

[On June 30th, the Court gave judgment in Mr. Pavlov's favour.]

SINGAPORE CHINESE JOIN AMERICAN BOYCOTT.

On June 20th, reports the *Singapore Free Press*, there was a large gathering of Chinese merchants and other members of the Chinese community at Singapore, to discuss the question of taking joint action with Shanghai and Hongkong in regard to American goods and the American Chinese Exclusion Act.

The meeting was representative of every section of Chinese traders, over 200 persons being present.

A resolution was proposed by Mr. Chan Teow Nam and seconded by Mr. Tan Hoon Chew,

that the action of the Shanghai Chinese Chamber of Commerce in deciding to boycott American traders and American goods until such time as satisfactory amendment be made in the laws dealing with the admission of Chinese into the United States be approved, and that similar action be taken by the Chinese merchants in Singapore.

This resolution was carried unanimously and it was decided to cable the decision to Shanghai, and also to cable to the Board of Commerce, and the Waipatu at Peking urging them to strengthen the hands of the Chinese Minister in the matter.

Action locally will be taken at once, but will not be retrospective; all contracts made up to the present will be carried out, but after that the boycott will be continued till such time as alteration is made in the laws.

During the course of the discussion which lasted some time, Mr. Yulick made a speech in which he made a novel proposition. Referring to the Christian missionaries from America he said that the Chinese Christians would support their fellow countrymen by refusing to listen to American missionaries, whose Christianity did not appear to be practicable amongst their own countrymen. The best method would be to fight shy of American missionaries and tell them to go back to their own people as their doctrines were not acceptable. Those Christians would invite English gentlemen to be their pastors, or elect their own Chinese pastors to continue the work of the Church.

In an interview with Mr. Wilber, United States Consul, next morning, the *Free Press* was informed that it was difficult to say how far the action of the Chinese would affect American trade with Singapore, since the Consular figures only dealt with exports. As regards the exclusion law the Consul pointed out that under the 1894 Convention the regulations as to admitting Chinese into the States, were he thought less severe than they are at present. That Convention expired in 1904 and the Chinese Government refused to renew it. In consequence the Government of the United States had to fall back on the 1884 Chinese Exclusion law which is the one at present in force. This law is aimed at the exclusion of the labourers, though it may be noted incidentally that laundry proprietors and barbers have been decided to be labourers. It, however, is intended to exempt officials, bona fide merchants students, and those travelling for pleasure. Certificates setting forth a large number of particulars have to be obtained in all cases except that of Diplomatic officials, and the Consul was inclined to think that the trouble was caused not by the law itself, so much as by the fact that certificates were in numerous instances faultily drawn out, and had to be referred to headquarters for consideration, thus causing delay and vexation.

IMPORTANT SHIPPING PROSECUTION.

The Postmaster General proceeded against the Manager of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Police Court on June 27, for allowing the company's s.s. *Triumph* to leave the harbour before the notified time, and without taking the mails for Swatow, Amoy and Foochow.

Mr. R. F. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the defendant and stated that the summons had been issued under Section 30 of Ordinance No. 6 of 1900. The Captain of the *Triumph* had left without authority from the office, as he feared bad weather was coming on, and wished to be out at sea before it did. He wished to apologise, on behalf of his client, to the Postmaster General.

Mr. Lewis, Assistant Postmaster-General, informed His Worship that the Post Office officials had been notified that the vessel was to leave at 12 o'clock. At 11.30 o'clock, when the mail was taken off, the ship was under way, and would not wait to receive it. As a consequence, very important mails were left behind.

A fine of \$25 was inflicted.

A life-sentence prisoner at Victoria Gaol on June 27 ran amok with a pair of tailor's shears. He stabbed one of the other prisoners in the abdomen and inflicted some nasty wounds on a European warder who seized him.

THE CURRENCY DANGER.

The following is a copy of the letter sent to The Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, Peking:—
Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
2nd June, 1905.

Your Excellency, I have the honour to bring to your notice the enormous expansion in the coining of 10-cash pieces, which has taken place during the past 12 months and which is still further developing. The following Provincial Mints are established or projected:

Mints	Old	New	Total
Canton...	50	30	80
Foochow...	20	12	32
Soochow...	18	56	74
Hangchow...	16	80	96
Nanking...	32	—	32
Hupei...	—	—	50
Hunan...	4	36	40
Nganking...	8	12	20
Chinkiang...	—	—	60
Honan...	—	—	6
Ohihli...	—	100	100
Szechuan...	82	—	82
Shanghai...	—	45	45*
Kiangse...	5	12	17
Shantung...	—	—	12

*These are transferred to Nanking.

These figures are only approximate, as some of the machines under the heading "New" may by now be in working order. Roughly speaking, out of an approximate total of 846 machines, 60 per cent are now working, 20 per cent are in course of erection, and 20 per cent have not arrived. It is estimated that these 846 machines when in full working order will absorb (at the rate of 18 piculs or 10.71 tons per machine per month) a total of about 9,060 tons of copper per month, or about 103,700 tons per year. As one ton of copper will coin into approximately 151,000 ten-cash pieces, one year's out-turn of 103,700 tons of copper will yield 16,413 million ten-cash pieces, equal to 40 ten-cash pieces per head of a population of 40 million people. This rate of production will presumably be reached in about 5 or 6 months from now, when all minting machinery on order will be duly installed. As regards the cost of production, taking as a basis the present price of copper, say £72 per ton, profits of the mints amount to about 35 to 40 per cent of which it appears one third is retained by the Provincial Mint authorities and other officials connected therewith, and two-thirds go to the Viceroy. Although there is no immediate prospect of an over-supply of these new coins, the danger prevails that:—

1st.—Owing to the large profit in the production thereof to all concerned, larger quantities will in course of time be turned out than required. Should this occur the new coins would inevitably give to a heavy discount, causing the manifold evils attendant on a depreciated currency, and most serious disturbance to all trade, internal and external.

2nd.—The temptation would crop up to lower the standard of the coin in order to keep up a high level of profit in the production thereof, should its circulating value decline. Then the problem of debased as well as appreciated coins would arise, and confusion become worse founded. It may here be mentioned that the intrinsic metal value of one 99 per cent copper 10-cash piece only equals 2.24 old one-cash pieces (made in the reign of the Emperor Kienlung 1735-1795, very few of which are now left in circulation, having been melted down owing to their relatively high metal value), 4/4 old one-cash pieces made in the reign of the Emperor Tung Chi (1861/71), and the present Emperor Kuang Hsi.

In recent treaties with Foreign Powers China agreed to establish a uniform national coinage; therefore in permitting the Provincial Authorities to produce these 10-cash pieces in varying intrinsic values, she is evading her treaty obligations.

The purpose of this letter is to request your Excellency to impress upon the Chinese Government, firstly, the supreme importance of regulating the supply of 10-cash coins according to the demand since they are token coins and therefore liable to depreciation.

Secondly, the imperative necessity to maintain these coins up to their full and proper

standard, since otherwise the confidence therein of the population would be destroyed.

These coins did not in the beginning fetch their face value, so they have had a fair start on the downward course of depreciation which can only reasonably be expected to end in their purchasing power coming down to their intrinsic value, viz., a fall of 50 per cent; when or before this is reached the copper cash, the currency of the people, will have disappeared from circulation and before the industry of the country can afford to adjust the big resulting difference, a period of bare subsistence for the people and great slackness of trade will be experienced.

For this reason alone it is of great importance to foreigners that the currency of the country should be better regulated.

In conclusion, I beg reference to the Report of the Imperial Maritime Customs, Part I. Report on Trade of China and Abstract of Statistics for 1904, published 1905, pages xii and xiii, which treats on this subject, and I would further add that quite recently coins of the face value of 5 cash have made their appearance, to which the foregoing applies equally and even more forcibly.—I have the honour to be, Your Excellency's, most humble and obedient servant.

WILLIAM D. LITTLE,
Chairman

THE KURIL ISLANDS.

[WRITTEN FOR THE "DAILY PRESS."]

These islands, extending from Yezo to the southern extremity of Kamchatka, are interesting at the present time, not only because they appear to be the continuation north-east of the islands of which the Japanese Empire (Hokkaido, Formosa and the Philippines form one long chain, but also because from the year 1711 to 1875 they formed part of the Russian Empire, having been handed over to Japan in this latter year in exchange for the southern part of Saghalin. From the notes of Captain H. J. Snow, F.R.G.S., we learn the following facts as to the history of the occupation of these islands.

The Kuril Islands were discovered by De Vries, a Dutch navigator, in 1634. In 1711 the Russians first invaded the islands, and in 1736 all those to the North of Yutorup (the largest of the group) became subject to Russia. In 1738 Spangberg, with three small vessels, examined the islands and wintered in Kamchatka. In 1766-7 a voyage was made amongst them to collect a fur-tax, and in 1795 the Russian-American Company established a factory on Urup, the island next to the N. E. of Yutorup. Towards the end of the eighteenth century, the Japanese established themselves on Yutorup, and in 1867 the Russians made deserts on that island. In November, 1830, the Russian-American Company formally took possession of the Kurils. As before stated, in 1875 all the Kurils north of Yutorup were handed over to Japan by Russia in exchange for the southern part of Saghalin. In 1884 the Japanese removed the few remaining Kurilsky Ainu to the Island of Shikotan (48 deg. 50 m. North), thus leaving the Islands from Urup to Shumshir without a single inhabitant.

The length of this chain of Kurils is about 630 miles and the direction is in nearly a straight line N.E. Practically the whole chain is volcanic and the islands are being pushed up out of the sea by volcanic agency. In all there are some twenty-four islands and numerous rocks covering an area of 2,861 square miles. In nearly all there are hot springs and active volcanoes. The only islands at present inhabited are Yutorup, Kunashir and Shikotan. In 1891 the total number of inhabitants was 2,836, of whom three fourths are Japanese, the rest Ainu. Yutorup and Kunashir are visited during the fishing season—which extends over half the year—by several hundreds of fishermen who are employed in the capture of salmon and salmon trout which are salted down by Japanese.

The Ainu, says Captain Snow, are a broad-shouldered, thick-set, well-sit-up, staid race, and if washed and combed, might be counted handsome. Their shaggy heads and beard give them a wild appearance; but all idea of ferocity is at once dispelled on making their acquaintance, when one notes the gentle expression of

their large soft brown eyes and their low musical voices.

Many of the girls are comely and attractive, having clear, fair skins, full European-looking eyes, well formed limbs and bodies. "The hairiness of the Ainu has been, I think, much exaggerated. As a rule, the Ainu men have fine beards and moustaches, which they allow to grow to their fullest extent. They are also hairy about the body and limbs, but not more so than very many Europeans. The women are practically free from an abnormal growth of hair, and I have never seen amongst them any approach to the hirsute crop observable on the faces of many women of Southern Europe. This people is fast diminishing owing to its habits of helplessness, want of spirit, and passion for strong liquor. Small-pox and syphilis play havoc amongst them, whilst the young women with any pretensions to good looks become the mistresses of the Japanese. Of animals, the following are to be found in the Islands: bear (the Yezo, *Ursus ferax*, black and brown bear), the wolf; foxes (red, black, cross and Yezo); Land otter on Kunashir and Yutorup; martin, also on Kunashir and Yutorup only; the hare (white in winter); squirrels and rats (on southern islands only); and lamming in large numbers. The sea-otter is found all along the Kuril chain; the fur seal (now becoming extinct); the sea-lion in large numbers; the hair-seal, also plentiful; whilst fish and birds abound.

The climate is decidedly moist, though the rain-fall is not large. The Spring is cold and boisterous during the early part, north-westerly winds prevail, and there is little fog. Throughout the latter half, the winds are very variable, with occasional slow rain and fog. Large ice-fields are brought across the Okhotsk Sea in February, and these become blocked on the south-west Kurils and east coast of Yezo, and it is sometimes well into May before all the ice is cleared from this vicinity. Fog prevails almost constantly throughout the summer. Clear spells are of short duration. The autumn is the best season, bright, clear and pleasant, with westerly winds continuing even to the middle of November.

The winter is cold and the prevailing wind is north-west. The nights are very cold, though the thermometer seldom falls to zero Fahrenheit.

Such, briefly and generally, is a description of the Kuril Islands, which once formed part of the now rapidly diminishing Eastern Empire of the once mighty Tsar.

THE GLEANERS

Apparently it is the custom of Chinese beggars to call at native eating houses after meal hours, when they are supplied with customers' leavings. For the last few weeks a female of the order, by a strange coincidence, has day after day put in an appearance at the same eating house as a male, and thus the fare, which otherwise he should have been the sole possessor of, has had to be divided. On Monday he told the woman that he objected to having his footsteps "dogged." Hongkong was wide, and she could surely find other eating houses than those at which he presented himself. He then advised her to leave the one at which they had just met in Clavering Street, as she was spoiling his trade. A woman's wit, however, accompanied by a handy brick, with which she struck him on the forehead, necessitated his removal to hospital, where it was ascertained that the wound inflicted was not a serious one. She feasted alone on the remains of the banquet, but was afterwards arrested and appeared before Mr. G. N. Orme at the Police Court yesterday to answer a charge of assault. His Worship inflicted a fine of \$1, and ordered that the gleaners should be transported to Canton.

ACCIDENTS.

A fisherman fishing with dynamite on June 27 blew off both his arms, and if he lives will probably lose his sight.

Another man while doing some excavating work at Kowloon on the same day dislodged a heavy boulder, which broke his arm.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

HANKOW, 21st June.—Business reported since the 14th inst., is as under:— 1905. 1904.
 Settlements 87,250 30,504
 Consisting of the following Teas:—

	1-Chests	
Ningchows	16,378 at Tls. 60.00 per picul.	
Khemuns	2,664 at Tls. 26.00 " "	
Kutoans	225 at Tls. " " " "	
Oopacks	7,140 at Tls. 16.25 " "	
Oonams	32,218 at Tls. 18.50 " "	
Oonfaas	20,786 at Tls. 17.50 " "	
Seang-tams	5,227 at Tls. 14.00 " "	
Ichang	2,612 at Tls. 66.50 " "	

The following are the statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 22nd June, 1904:—

	1905.	1904.
HANKOW TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements...	815,881	434,586
Stock	67,498	3,542
Arrivals	383,379	438,128
KIUKIANG TEA.	1-Chests.	1-Chests.
Settlements...	146,488	181,421
Stock	25,096	15,255
Arrivals	171,584	196,676

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Son's Silk Circular dated Shanghai, June 17th, 1905 states:—The home markets are firm; Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 11/6 and in Lyons at Fcs. 32. Raw Silk.—Our last circular was dated May 24th, since when a considerable business has been done in Tsatlees and Kashings, whilst Coarse Silks have changed hands in small lots. Yellow Silk.—A few small parcels of second choice Mienyangs and Mienchews have changed hands. Hand Filatures.—A moderate business has been done in usual style filatures, and we hear of one transaction in new style at Tls. 700 average. Steam Filatures.—Market very quiet. Tussah Filatures.—There has been a steady demand for this class of silk during the past week, and owners are now asking advanced rates. Waste.—Nothing doing.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 30th June.

Quotations are:— Allow'ce net to 1 catty.

Malwa New	\$1200 to — per picul.
Malwa Old	\$1280 to — do.
Malwa Older	\$1340 to — do.
Malwa V. Old	\$1400 to — do.
Persian fine quality	\$980 to — do.
Persian extra fine	\$1020 to — do.
Patna New	\$1120 to — per chest.
Patna Old	\$ — to — do.
Benares New	\$1080 to — do.
Benares Old	\$ — to — do.

COAL.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough, in their Coal Report of June 30th state that 16 steamers are expected at Hongkong with a total of 34,100 tons of Japan coal, 6,000 tons of Cardiff Coal, and 26,700 tons of Indian. Since June 16th 41,600 tons of Japan coal have arrived. The market continues weak with no buyers. Quotations:—

Cardiff	\$15.00 \$16.00 ex-ship.
Australian	\$12.00 \$13.00 ex-ship.
Yubari Lump	\$12.00 ex-ship, nominal
Milki Lump	\$11.00 ex-ship, nominal
Moji Lump	\$8.50 to \$9.50 ex-ship, quiet.

COTTON.

HONGKONG 30th June:—Good business at an advance of \$1 per picul. Stock about 4,000 bales. Bombay \$20.00 to 22.00 per picul. || Bengal (New), Rangoon and Dacca | 20.00 to 25.00 " " |
| Shanghai and Japanese | 26.00 to 27.00 " " |
| Tungchow and Ningpo | 26.00 to 27.00 " " |

Reported sales 800 bales.

YARN.

Mr. Eduljee, in his Report, dated Hongkong, 29th June, says:—Considerable arrivals—22,731 bales—have taken place during the interval, but with a meagre stock on hand, the market was well able to withstand this heavy influx. A fair proportion of the receipts is in fulfillment of old contracts, and dealers are now fairly well supplied with almost all grades of twist, with which they are meeting the existing demand. New business from first hands is consequently greatly checked, and total settlements of the fortnight barely amount to 6,800 bales. Prices generally have ruled firm and the market may be termed unchanged.

The Bombay market is very strong, and at the close higher prices are advised, which further enhances the laying down cost. Importers, however, are not so firm in their ideas and would meet buyers to a reasonable extent, but dealers are not now inclined to increase their holdings and a temporary check is for the moment being experienced.

Local Manufacture:—Nothing doing; the mill having sold freely forward for several months can afford to hold off.

Japanese Yarn:—With the exception of a single sale of 50 bales No. 16s at \$134 nothing has been done in these threads, the market being bare of stock.

Raw Cotton:—Indian descriptions are fairly active, and sales of 450 bales superfine Bengals at \$23 to \$24, are reported. At the close importers are holding off in sympathy with higher prices wired from Bombay. Unsold stock about 4,000 bales. In Shanghai Cotton a parcel of 130 bales Thoongchow has been reported sold at \$25 to \$26, unsold stock 200 bales. Quotations are Indian \$22 to \$25 and Chinese \$22 to \$26.

Exchange on India has been fairly steady and closes to-day at Rs. 140½ for T/T and Rs. 140½ for Post. On Shanghai 71½ and on Japan 92.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 16th instant, viz:—

Indian:—A better feeling has prevailed in the market and a general appreciation of half to 1½ taels has taken place in values, Nos. 10s and 20s showing the largest advance. Total sales about 6,000 with an estimated stock of 60,000, bales.

Japanese:—The late depression has completely disappeared and the market rules firm, but shortness of supplies is affecting business. Sales reported are 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 89 to 90 for No. 10s, Tls. 93½ to 101½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 104 to 108 for No. 20s.

Local:—Further contracts to the extent of 16,500 bales have been entered into by some of the mills during the interval, on the basis of Tls. 84½ to 85½ for No. 10s, Tls. 85½ to 87 for No. 12s, Tls. 88 to 89½ for No. 14s, and Tls. 90½ to 92 for No. 16s.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 22nd June, 1905, states:—The pessimistic remarks we made last week have been condemned in some quarters, but we see nothing to cause us to change our view. In fact it is rather confirmed by the action the leading native dealers have considered it necessary to take during the interval, and that is to agree on a basis on which to uphold prices on this market. That there should be any occasion for such a combination against consumers at once shows the precarious condition to which the trade is coming, the only justification for thus interfering with the ordinary laws of supply and demand being the possibility of the regular channels of trade in the North being restored in the near future. This question has received the attention of the local Chamber of Commerce, and at the last Committee Meeting held two days ago a sub-committee was appointed to wait on the Japanese Consul-General to ask his assistance in the matter. He received the deputation this morning and promised to telegraph requesting that, so far as it was compatible with the exigencies of the Military, to remove all obstructions to trade and do what they can to facilitate transport of goods into the interior. What good, if any, this will effect is quiet problematical, but in the meantime there has been a considerable business doing in anticipation, which second hand holders seem only too willing to take advantage of. This has also led buyers for other markets to operate and consequently a firmer feeling prevails at the moment. The Tientsin markets continue to operate and more demand is being experienced for Corea, but Hankow is recovering very slowly. A further menace to trade has just been brought prominently forward by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, and that is the wholesale coinage of Copper Cash which is going on all over the country. Mints are being established everywhere, and the country is rapidly being flooded with a debased coinage, which must inevitably do the greatest injury to trade generally. The minting process is quite simple, the copper discs being supplied by some of the leading firms here. This is the Native idea of carrying out the Mackay Treaty with regard to establishing an uniform currency. Manchester has opened very strong after the Whit week holidays, market advances being noticeable from a few weeks ago. Cotton has taken a sudden jump of 4.90d. for Mid-American, and it is said private advices quote higher than that. Egyptian remains the same—7½d. The New York market

is also strong, a recent small purchase for this market showing a further advance even for March-April shipment. We are still without cotton quotations, and no news of the official report on the acreage sown appears to have come to hand so far as we can learn, but private written advices make it 8 per cent. less, and the same percentage less in the usage of fertilizers. Piece Goods.—Private transactions from first hands are still of a very limited character, and are not realising the profits at one time thought possible. Further parcels bought for next Spring delivery have been placed on private terms this week. Old chops of Manchester £10, are feeling the competition of American four yard makes. The auctions have shown a little more life, and the market is certainly less depressed, clearances have been fair.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, June 21st, 1905:—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

	Per picul.
Cowhides, Best Selected	Tls. 34.50
Do. Seconds	30.50
Buffalo hides, Best Selected	17.00
Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white color ..	(nom.)
Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each	7.60
White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi	(nom.)
White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu ..	(")
Green China Grass, Szechuen	(")
Jute	4.70
White Vegetable Tallow, Kinchow	9.00
White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow and/or Macheng	8.60
White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu	8.00
Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu	11.00
Animal Tallow	9.50
Gallnuts, Usual shape	17.00
Do. Plum do.	18.00
Tobacco, Tingchow	(nom.)
Do. Woukong	(")
Black Bristles	110.00
Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck	(nom.)
Do. Wild Duck	(")
Turmeric	3.50
Sesamum Seed	4.25
Sesamum Seed Oil	8.00
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil	(nom.)
Wood Oil	7.80
Tea Oil	(nom.)

Per steamer Deucalion, sailed on 20th June. For Odessa:—20 cases Bristles, 125 cases Star Aniseed. For Genoa:—203 bales Canes. For Marseilles:—225 bales Waste Silk, 200 packages Tea, 6 bales Human Hair, 50 cases Gallnuts, 100 cases Cassia, 50 bales Bamboos. For Havre:—5 boxes Bristles, 190 bales Split Bamboos. For Liverpool:—100 bales Waste Silk, 10 cases Essential Oil, 211 packages Effects and Sundries. For Manchester:—125 bales Waste Silk.

Per steamer Calchas, sailed 22nd June, For Suez, 200 cases Cassia; for Havre, London or Hamburg, 10 cases Essential Oil, 20 cases Bristles; for Amsterdam, 200 boxes Tea, 200 cases Ginger, 65 rolls Matting; for London, 125 bales Waste Silk, 1,825 boxes Firecrackers, 75 cases Blackwoodware, &c., 386 rolls Matting, 62 cases Effects and Sundries, 5 bags Ore, 105 package Shells, 575 bales Canes, 200 casks Preserves, 100 casks Soy, 248 bales Feathers; for London and Hamburg, 112 bales Canes, 61 bales Feathers, 5 cases Human Hair; for Dundee, 62 bales Mats; for Glasgow, 2 cases Bicycles; for Hamburg, 234 bags Ore; for Copenhagen, 600 cases Cassia; for Antwerp, 155 bags Ore.

Per I. G. M. steamer Zieten, sailed on the 22nd June, for Aden, 129 rolls Chinaware, 50 cases Preserves; for Messina, 334 cases Cassia; for Rhodes, 21 cases Cassia; for Smyrna, 186 cases Cassia; for Odessa, 232 cases Cassia; for Piraeus, 112 cases Cassia; for Mytilene, 44 cases Cassia; for Naples, 100 bales Raw Silk; for Genoa, 310 bales Raw Silk, 150 bales Waste Silk; for Buenos Ayres, 100 cases Palm Leaf Fans; for Antwerp, 157 cases Cassia, 53 bales Feathers, 21 rolls Matting, 3 cases Human Hair; Antwerp or Hamburg, 45 cases Bristles; for Antwerp, Hamburg or London, 115 cases Bristles; for Amsterdam, 9 cases Chinaware, 1 roll Matting; for Rotterdam, 320 bales Bamboo Scraps, 13 rolls Matting, 8 cases Chinaware; for Bremen, 170 bales Feathers, 54 rolls Matting; for Hamburg, 590 bales Feathers, 62 rolls Matting, 50 cases Bristles, 49 bales Canes, 8 cases Blackwoodware, 8 cases Feathers, 5 cases Cassia, 5 bales Cassia; for London, 1,055 rolls Matting, 10 cases Bristles; for Copenhagen, 125 cases Cassia, and 1 cases Curios.

Per M. M. Co., steamer *Caledonien*, sailed on the 27th June, for Marseilles, 272 bales Raw Silk, 320 bales Waste Silk, 184 bales Pierced Cocoons, 19 cases Silk Piece Goods, 48 packages Human Hair, 47 packages Provisions; for Lyons, 309 bales Raw Silk, 4 bales Waste Silk; for St. Chamond, 30 bales Raw silk; for Milan, 60 bales Raw Silk; for London, 77 bales Waste Silk.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—FRIDAY, 30th June.	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, on demand	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/10 1/4
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/10 1/4
ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand	236
Credits 4 months' sight	239
ON GERMANY.—On demand	192 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	45 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	46 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—Telegraphic Transfer	140 1/2
Bank, on demand	140 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—Telegraphic Transfer	140 1/2
Bank, on demand	140 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	72
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	92
ON MANILA.—On demand	92 1/2
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	6 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	112 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	61 1/2
SEVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$10.55
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$55.90
BAR SILVER, per oz.	26 1/2

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 30th June, 1905.—The prevailing feature of the market continues to be a tendency to further weakness, and with a very few exceptions, we have to quote lower rates when any changes have been made. The settlements yesterday were put through, but brought out several defaulters, whose losses had to be borne in some cases by their brokers, and in others by their principals. On the whole it can only be termed an unsatisfactory settlement, although it is likely to clear the air to some extent.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have further improved to \$820 without any sales to report, the rate rose quickly and the market closes with buyers and no sellers, the higher rate not tempting holders to part. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have ruled steady with small sales at \$695, closing with probable small sellers at that rate. Cantons continue in request at \$317 1/2 without sales. China Traders have further improved and have been placed as high as \$75, the market closing steady at that rate. Yangtszes and North Chinas remain unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have been placed at \$302 1/2, while Chinas continue without sales at \$87.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have again changed hands at \$27, but close with sellers at that rate. Indes under settlement influences have suffered a further decline and sales have been effected during the week at \$97 and \$96, market closing steady at the latter rate.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars remain more or less neglected with a few shares obtainable at \$214. Luzons have ruled quiet with sellers and no sales to report.

MINING.—Raubs have been placed at \$6 and more are wanted at that rate. Charbounages unchanged and without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have somewhat recovered, sales having been made at \$192 1/2, \$193 and \$194 closing with further buyers at the last rate. Kowloon Wharves have steadied up a bit and shares on offer last week at \$95 have been withdrawn, while a small demand at that rate remains unsatisfied at time of closing. Farnhams have further declined to Tls. 140 ex div., but close with buyers in Shanghai at that rate. Amoy Docks unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands, in the early part of the week, declined to \$117 and later to \$115 with sellers; at time of closing, however, the market appears steadier with probable buyers at \$114 to \$114 1/2. Hotels are quoted lower at \$142 sellers without business. Humphreys have been placed at \$12 1/2 and Kowloon Lands at \$40.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have been dealt in to a limited extent at Tls. 41, and at \$58 locally, the market closing with buyers at Tls. 41; other quotations under the heading are taken from Shanghai advices.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Bell's Asbestos are still enquired for at \$5.50 without bringing any shares in the market. Green Islands have been placed at \$16 1/2 for new and \$26 1/2 for old shares, and Watsons at \$12 1/2. Gas Shares have improved to \$170 ex div., with buyers. Steam Waterboats have fallen to \$16.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$100
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai	\$125	\$820, buyers
National B. of China	£5	\$37, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$5 1/2, buyers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$12, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$10
China Provident	\$10	\$8.75, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 41, buyers
Hongkong	\$10	\$16 1/2, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 38
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 42 1/2
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 180, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$17, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
Farnham, B. & Co.	Tls. 100	Tls. 140, ex div., buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$95
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$194, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$18, sellers
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 175
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$93 1/2
G. Island Cement	\$10	\$26 1/2, sales & sel.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$16 1/2, sellers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$170, buy. ex div.
Do. New	\$5	\$11 1/2, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$212 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$142, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$242 1/2
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$50	\$152
H'kong S. Waterboat	\$10	\$16, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$317 1/2, buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$87, sellers
China Traders	\$25	\$75
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$302 1/2, sales
North China	£25	Tls. 82
Union	\$100	\$695
Yangtsze	\$60	\$172 1/2
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$115
Humphreys' Estate	\$10	\$12 1/2, sellers
Do. New	\$10	\$30
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$40, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 122, buyers
West Point Building	\$50	\$54, sellers
Mining—		
Charbounages	Fcs. 250	\$490
Raubs	18 10	\$6, buyers
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$9 1/2, sellers
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$214, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$31, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$21, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$35 1/2, sellers
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$27, sales & sel.
Indo-China S.N. Co.	£10	\$96, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	£1	22s, sellers
Do. Preference	£10	£3. 10s.
Star Ferry	\$10	\$35, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$27, sales & sel.
Shanghai & H. Dyeing	\$5 1/2	\$50
South China M. Post	\$25	\$22, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$8
Do. New	\$3	\$7 1/2
Stores & Dispensaries—		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$36
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$11 1/2, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12 1/2, sales
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9 1/2, sellers
Do. Founders	\$10	\$180

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s share report for the week ending June 22nd, 1905, states:—A fair business transpired during the past week, especially so in S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., and Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co. shares, both of which stocks closed slightly weaker. The T.T. rate on London to-day is 2/7 1/2. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. These have changed hands at \$802.50 from Hongkong, and locally at \$795 ex. 73. Marine and Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-Chinas. A very limited business has been done in these at Tls. 72 for July and September. Shanghai Tugs. Preference shares were placed at Tls. 50 and are offering at this rate. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyds. The market opened on the 15th with sales at Tls. 161 cash; 162 1/2 June, Tls. 164 July, Tls. 166 August and Tls. 167 September. On the 16th cash shares were placed at Tls. 161 1/2, Tls. 162 1/2 June, and Tls. 167 September. On the 17th Tls. 161 1/2 cash, Tls. 165 1/2 August. On the 19th Tls. 161 1/2 cash and June delivery, Tls. 161 1/2 June, Tls. 162 1/2 July, and Tls. 166 September. On the 20th Tls. 159 cash, Tls. 160 June. On the 21st Tls. 159 cash, 159.85 June, Tls. 160 July and Tls. 164 September. The market closes weak, especially for forward delivery shares. S. & H. Wharf Co. The market opened on the 15th with sales for June at Tls. 185, Tls. 189 July, and Tls. 194 October. On the 16th August shares changed hands at Tls. 187 and 191 October. On the 19th Tls. 178 cash, Tls. 180 June, Tls. 182 1/2 July, Tls. 187 October. On the 20th Tls. 183 1/2 July, Tls. 180 June, Tls. 187 1/2 September, Tls. 190 October. On the 21st Tls. 180 for June, Tls. 182 July, and Tls. 185 December. The market closes with buyers at Tls. 180 for June, and is quiet for forward delivery. Sugar.—Peraks have been placed at Tls. 73 for July, Tls. 80 January, Tls. 81 February, Tls. 82 March, and Tls. 83 April, 1906. Mining.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., bearer shares have changed hands at Tls. 7.75 and 7.80. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 120 and 121, and there are buyers at the latter rate. Industrial.—Cotton Stocks. There has been a demand during the week resulting in Laou-kung-mows at Tls. 40, 41 and 42 for cash; Ewos at Tls. 39 and 40; buyers of the latter at Tls. 41 or a trifle better. Paper and Pulps have been placed at Tls. 167 1/2 for cash and Tls. 167 1/2, 170, and 172 1/2 July, Tls. 175 August. Langkats have weakened during the week, sales having been effected at Tls. 222 1/2 for July ex div., paid on the 15th inst., Tls. 220 June, Tls. 230 October. On the 17th Tls. 222 1/2 cash, Tls. 220 for June, Tls. 227 1/2 July, Tls. 230 September, Tls. 232 1/2 October. On the 19th cash shares at Tls. 219/17 1/2 for June, 222 1/2 July, 230 October. On the 20th Tls. 220/17 1/2 for June, Tls. 220 July, Tls. 230/27 1/2 October. On the 21st Tls. 220 for July, Tls. 225 October, Tls. 227 1/2 November. The market closes quiet, with a few buyers for July delivery. Sumatras have been placed at Tls. 68. Stores and Hotels.—Lane and Crawford at \$145, Astor House \$30, 31 1/2 cash, Hotel des Colonies at Tls. 19. Weeks are wanted at Tls. 18.80. Miscellaneous.—Telephones have been placed at Tls. 68. Horse Bazaars Tls. 80. Loans and Debentures.—Shanghai Lands 6 per cent. at Tls. 98. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf debentures Tls. 97. Astor House at 5 per cent premium.

FREIGHTS.

Messrs. Weelock & Co.'s Freight Market Report dated Shanghai, 22nd June, 1905, states:—There is still no change to report in our homeward freight market, although there are signs of tea coming forward soon in larger quantities, the native dealers having come down considerably, since the opening of the season, in their ideas of prices. Coastwise.—We regret not to be able to report any improvement in coast rates since last writing, as there is an increasing amount of tonnage being released from time-charter in Japan, besides which the dull season in river and coast freights is upon us with little or no coal in Japan offering for export, so that ship-owners must be prepared to face very unprofitable rates during the course of the next two or three months at least.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports 46/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre 41/6 per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York, (via Suez, 32/- per ton of 40 c. ft. plus river freight. To New York overland.—Tea G. \$1 1/2 cents per lb. gross plus river freight. To Shanghai.—Tea and General Cargo, Tels 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

- June — ARRIVALS.
- 25, Abbey Holme, British str., from Muroran.
 25, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 25, Yochow, British str., from Shanghai.
 26, Anghin, German str., from Bangkok.
 26, Caledonien, French str., from Yokohama.
 26, Fri, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
 26, Goldmouth, British str., from London.
 26, Hanyang, British str., from Canton.
 26, Idomeneus, British str., from Liverpool.
 26, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
 26, Signal, German str., from Hoihow.
 26, Taiyuan, British str., from Australia.
 26, Tourane, French str., from Marseilles.
 27, C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 27, Dufferin, British str., from Bombay.
 27, Elax, British str., from Pulo Sambo.
 27, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Swatow.
 27, Esang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 27, Quinta, German str., from Bangkok.
 27, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
 27, Siberia, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 27, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 27, Yunnan, British str., from Canton.
 28, Benlomond, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
 28, Foehsing, British str., from Canton.
 28, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 28, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 28, Onsang, British str., from Pekalongan.
 28, Oscar II., Norwegian str., from Karatsu.
 28, Tartar, British str., from Vancouver.
 28, Tiger, German gunboat, from Pakhoi.
 29, Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Tamsui.
 29, Johanne, German str., from Bangkok.
 29, Khalif, British str., from Barry.
 29, Louise Roth, British str., from Newcastle.
 29, Sildra, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 29, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 29, Talisman, Norwegian str., from Samarang.
 29, Thode Fagelund, Nor. str., from Shanghai.
 29, Willehad, German str., from Yokohama.
 30, Alesia, German str., from Hamburg.
 30, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.
 30, Glenogle, British str., from Singapore.
 30, Nubia, British str., from Shanghai.
 30, Taming, British str., from Manila.
- June — DEPARTURES.
- 24, Tiger, German gunboat, for Pakhoi.
 25, Sea Lion, British str., for Nagasaki.
 25, Yochow, British str., for Canton.
 26, Aldershot, British str., for Canton.
 26, Ardova, British str., for Moji.
 26, Hong Bee, British str., for Swatow.
 27, Ailsacraig, British str., for Kuchinotzu.
 27, Alumere, British str., for Sourabaya.
 27, Caledonien, French str., for Europe.
 27, China, Austrian str., for Shanghai.
 27, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 27, Erne, British torpedo, for Weihaiwei.
 27, Ha'lan, French str., for Hoihow.
 27, Hai Nam, French str., for Hoihow.
 27, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.
 27, Hanyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Hecla, British torpedo, for Weihaiwei.
 27, Holstein, German str., for Hoihow.
 27, Idomeneus, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Indradeo, British str., for Queensland.
 27, Itohen, British torpedo, for Weihaiwei.
 27, Jardon Hill, Brit. 4-m. bge., for Newcastle.
 27, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
 27, Shimosa, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Signal, German str., for Swatow.
 27, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 27, Tientsin, British str., for Chinkiang.
 27, Wongkoi, German str., for Swatow.
 28, Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Comliebank, British str., for P. Townsend.
 28, Emma Luyken, German str., for Swatow.
 28, Hangsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Kansu, British str., for Tientsin.
 28, Labuan, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 28, Sdisang, British str., for Calcutta.
 28, Tiger, German gunboat, for Amoy.
 28, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 29, Dufferin, British str., for Weihaiwei.
 29, Esang, British str., for Tientsin.
 29, Fri, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
 29, Maria Valerie, Austrian str., for Trieste.
 30, A. G. Ropes, Amr. ship, for Baltimore.
 30, Benlomond, British str., for London.
 30, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 30, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.

- 30, Elisabeth Rickmers, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
 30, Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 30, Goldmouth, British str., for Yokohama.
 30, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 30, Maria Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 30, Rubi, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED

- Per *Fri*, from Haiphong, &c., Messrs. de Pialont and Gilson.
 Per *Signal*, from Hoihow, Miss Montgomery.
 Per *Goldmouth*, from Singapore, Capt. C. Raison and Mr. R. Gardiner.
 Per *Yochow*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Bell, Capt. Dowson, Messrs. King and Leily.
 Per *Loongsang*, from Manila, Capt. J. G. Stritzinger, Miss M. Fladatz, Messrs. L. A. Curtis and J. D. Armstrong.
 Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong from Yokohama, Messrs. Yamada, Gendersen and Kida; from Kobe, Mr. Yamagiya; from Shanghai, Messrs. Bastien, H. Michael, Bilfinger, Crombie, F. Leitao, Miss Chuvva Muvaierva, Rev. Le Gao, Miss Carmen Sophie, Mr. and Mrs. Sette and infant, Mr. and Mrs. de Souza, and Miss Guerina Leitao; for Saigon from Shanghai, Mr. Abolivier; for Singapore from Yokohama, Mr. Rudra; from Kobe, Messrs. T. Carter, Mishimara and Tonohara; from Shanghai, Messrs. T. Hirose, Shibata, and H. Ishie; for Colombo from Kobe, Messrs. Johnson and Wilson; from Shanghai, Sister Gabrielle and Colomb de St. Marie, Messrs. Christin and G. Dietrich, Miss R. Schapira, and Mr. Georges Cavatazakis; for Port Said from Shanghai, Messrs. Goulareff, Wassilieff, Kettinsky, Mr. and Mrs. J. Aurat, Miss Berthe Aura, Mrs. Andujena, Messrs. J. Blot, Lam, Ivanoff, Alexandroff, Mrs. Kaftanovviev and child, Mrs. Pitanova, Mrs. Pennikowa, Mrs. Bazaow, Messrs. Dergatcheff and Konzmin; for Marseilles from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. Brown; from Kobe, Messrs. Hansen, D. Will, Wynell, Bremmer, Coates, Mackie, Olsen, Wilkins, Bertran, E. Verle, Icill, Emme t. A. Tollusen, E. Evensen, Larsen, Telefessen and Kato; from Shanghai, Mr. Lambert, Mons. Reynaud, Messrs. Pierrard, Nenukow, Kier-ee, Detaille, Reva, Kassat and Asmelle, Messrs. Jacob Caro, G. Melochi, A. Melochi, G. Paseton, Boulanger, Le Guem and Sangster.
 Per *Tourane*, for Hongkong from Marseilles, Mrs. Atchin; from Singapore, Messrs. G. S. Magill, H. Fairburn, F. E. Harmer, A. Cumming, Mrs. L. Anderson, and Mr. K. Matsuda; from Saigon, Mr. C. P. Kristy, Mr. and Mrs. Encarnacao, Messrs. P. Mabria, Porvilt and Father Robert; for Shanghai from Marseilles, Messrs. Gimon, Renaud, La Plagne Barris, Dr. and Mrs. Chabaneise, Fathers Catet, Reynaud, Marmorat, Moreton, Prelat, Poncet and Bonnet, Messrs. Grauger, Kerboul, Charpentier, Debret, Dreyfus and Hemedinger; from Port Said, Mrs. Zaidman and Mr. Bardarh; from Calcutta, Mrs. Sidemann; from Singapore, Messrs. F. A. Crailshaw, Caleris and Ezra; from Saigon, Mr. L. Chichester, Mr. and Mrs. M. Karp, Messrs. Pen, Sollerot and Mitsuk; for Kobe from Marseilles, Mrs. Tarnosky, Mrs. Rubbatell; from Singapore, Mrs. Mitsjee; for Yokohama from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Gielen, Mr. and Mrs. Trudel, and Mrs. Rongemont; from Melbourne, His Honour Judge Casey; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Harrai; from Saigon, Mr. Desonguy.
 Per *Taiyuan*, from Australia, &c., Mr. and Mrs. W. Robinson, Mr. J. Robinson, Miss Mac-killar, Messrs. W. Prindle, A. S. Anderson, E. Hemming, Dr. Bohne, Mr. W. C. Garlick, Mrs. F. Geraghty, Misses Elliot, E. Bayless, E. Taylor, Mr. P. Hassett, Mrs. K. F. Bassell and 3 children, Mr. W. Cadden, Miss Oharu and Osayo, Master G. and C. Cooper, and Mr. D. Kays.
 Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Messrs. J. Perry, C. B. Jausseno, A. B. Dennie, Mr. and Mrs. Dolz.
 Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Mitsumine, Mrs. J. Christie, Miss M. Gavin, Messrs. A. Popovich, C. J. G. Hill, Manuel Donato, D. H. Grant, J. Fortis, Jose Dy Toco and S. M. Moncada.
 Per *Siberia*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. J. W. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Bell, Mr. J. L. Davis, Mrs. Geo. N. Briggs and infant, Miss M. M. Decker, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Evans, Mr. Maurice Goodman, Miss A. L. Hardeman; Mr.

H. E. Heacock, Miss F. Hendricks, Messrs. W. F. Heroy, A. H. Hewitt, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Holmes and infant, Mr. W. H. Howard, Miss H. Kloss, Miss M. Merchant, Messrs. E. B. Merchant, R. H. King, Miss F. L. Moore, Messrs. W. P. Scott, Cass. B. Warren, H. B. Wilkinson, R. Oberwimmer, Ronald McCullough, C. B. Nanavati, Miss R. Hazeland, and Mrs. E. M. Hazeland and infant.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mr. F. Chunnnet and Mrs. Dafferty.

Per *Hongkong*, from Haiphong, Messrs. Grieveau and Piviat; from Hoihow, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell and 2 children and Miss McKinley.

Per *Tartar*, from Yokohama, Messrs. E. S. Gordon, H. E. Stevison, Mr. and Mrs. Mooney and infant; from Shanghai, Mr. C. E. Spore, Mr. and Mrs. Sivoya, and Mrs. F. E. Cameron.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong from London, Messrs. W. Bishop and D. Fuller, Sergt.-Maj. Ridley; from Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Kaplan; from Gibraltar, Surgeon J. E. Brangan, R.N.; from Singapore, Mr. C. R. Scott, Mrs. K. Parker, Messrs. A. Gutierrez and S. Hallam; for Shanghai from London, Messrs. Yard, Bishop, J. W. Tinsley and F. Richardson; from Marseilles, Messrs. E. Pannenberg, H. Bode and B. F. Parvogel; from Colombo, Mr. Meissell, Miss Martini, Mr. and Mrs. Perrett, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Maibaum, Mr. and Mrs. Bachar; from Bombay, Mr. Kazerooni; from Singapore, Miss A. Bailey and Mr. Jacobins.

Per *Nubia*, for Hongkong from Kobe, Mr. Nicholls; from Shanghai, Mr. R. Young, Capt. H. Muller, Messrs. J. Maher and C. Stockhausen; for Port Said from Shanghai, Messrs. Haseloh and Cherepancoff; for Marseilles from Kobe, Mr. G. Obey; from Nagasaki, Messrs. P. Donnelly and J. Homan; from Shanghai, Messrs. A. Isgrishoff, H. Roxburgh, and Scanzie; for London from Kobe, Mr. R. Baker; from Nagasaki, Messrs. A. and W. Stewart; from Shanghai, Messrs. W. Howell and R. Aires, Mr. and Mrs. Nicoll, Mr. C. Biron, Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilcox, Messrs. Corsane and N. Middleton.

DEPARTED.

Per *Minnesota*, for Seattle, &c., Mr. Willard W. Clark, Lieut. Dougherty, Mr. Oscar M. Herzog, Mr. and Mrs. Ger. Armes, Mrs. F. E. Cameron, Messrs. F. P. Paterno, F. Paterno, B. J. Barlow, J. H. Ranger, H. Skott, Miss Stella Cabler, Mr. and Mrs. E. Goetz, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph A. Schoenfeld, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. F. Montavon, Messrs. H. I. Black, J. N. Ritchie, John M. Schlotz, M. Gonzalez, Master A. Gonzalez, Mrs. John E. Springer, Mrs. C. D. Wood, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Helvie, Mr. W. F. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Yndt, Capt. and Mrs. Bruin, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Esteban, Miss Jane S. Worcester, Miss E. B. Worcester, Messrs. R. Braun, Howard L. Leslie, Mr. and Mrs. R. Daly, Miss Daly, Mrs. Arthur F. Williams, Messrs. F. L. Hemming, F. H. Simpson, B. Jensen, Jess C. Winebrenner, Mr. and Mrs. Somosa, Master T. Reyes, Messrs. T. Bolger, I. A. Franco, Glendinning, J. W. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mitchell, Mrs. Miyasaki, Mrs. K. Yano, Messrs. M. J. Cannon, J. H. Grace, A. E. Willsher and M. Kobayashi.

Per *Tourane*, for Shanghai, Messrs. F. Bonnet, S. Heblen, P. Kemo, Mr. and Mrs. J. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Armatpung, Misses Rosa, Sarah and Marguerite, Messrs. Gelson, J. de Berniere Smith, R. D. Harvey, G. H. Potts, Klatzker, R. Gardener, J. W. Davis, J. B. Young, Demare and Rosa Weiss; for Kobe, Messrs. G. N. Courtney and K. Kato.

Per *Caledonien*, for Saigon, Mrs. M. Gundersen, Reva. Boismery and Villeneuve, Miss Bertha, Mr. Bouzgary, Rev. Arvieu, Messrs. F. M. Lanchoer and Ma'sui; for Singapore, Mr. J. T. Merecki, Dr. M. L. King, Messrs. Perry King, J. A. Peach, Mrs. Mary P. King, and Mr. Thomas; for Colombo, Rev. Quaran and Mr. R. J. Perez; for Marseilles, Messrs. J. Rommy, Louis Le Savaga, M. M. V. Siamia, M. Bergara, J. de Lema, J. Santos, A. Figueras, Mrs. G. Krohn, Mr. John Harger, Countess de Piolant, Messrs. C. Mack, E. Varella, S. Rodriguez, W. Oriente, E. Valderana, E. Mar-douads, O. Landgraf, J. Roberts, and M. Stomamber.

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